the dtic
Department:
Trade, Industry and Competition
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Environmental Implementation Plan

5th Edition 2025 – 2030

As required in terms of Section 11(1) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998

(Act No. 107 of 1998)

Compiled by:

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Acronyms

Acronym	Full Term	Definition
AQA	National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act	Legislation governing air quality management and pollution control in South Africa.
APP	Annual Performance Plan	Annual planning instrument outlining departmental priorities, outputs and targets.
AU	African Union	Continental union consisting of 55 African member states.
BCAs	Border Carbon Adjustments	Trade measures that adjust for carbon content of imported goods to prevent carbon leakage.
BIS	Black Industrialists Scheme	**the dtic** Incentive programme supporting black-owned manufacturing and industrial firms.
CIPC	Companies and Intellectual Property Commission	Entity responsible for company registrations and intellectual property administration.
CO	Carbon Monoxide	A toxic, colourless, odourless gas produced by incomplete combustion.
CO_2	Carbon Dioxide	Major greenhouse gas contributing to climate change.
DFFE	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment	National department responsible for environmental regulation and oversight.
the dtic	Department of Trade, Industry and Competition	South African government department overseeing industrialisation, trade, competition and economic development.
the dti	Department of Trade and Industry	Predecessor to **the dtic** prior to its merger with the EDD in 2019.
DG	Director-General	Highest-ranking civil servant in a government department.
EA	Environmental Authorisation	Legal approval required for activities that may significantly impact the environment.
EDD	Economic Development Department	Former government department merged into **the dtic** in 2019.
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment	Process to identify, predict and evaluate environmental impacts of proposed activities.
EIP	Environmental Implementation Plan	Statutory plan describing how departments will comply with environmental legislation and principles.
EIMP	Environmental Implementation and Management Plan	Broader environmental planning instrument combining implementation and management components.
EMPr	Environmental Management Programme	Detailed plan outlining mitigation, monitoring and management measures for authorised activities.

EMS	Environmental Management System	Organisational framework for managing environmental performance (e.g., ISO 14001).
EMP	Environmental Management Plan	Document specifying how environmental impacts will be managed during operations.
EOSS	Energy One Stop Shop	Government facility providing streamlined support for energy project developers.
EPR	Extended Producer Responsibility	System requiring producers to manage post-consumer waste and product end-of-life impacts.
EV	Electric Vehicle	Vehicle propelled by electric motors powered by batteries or fuel cells.
FY	Financial Year	Annual budget and reporting period for government institutions.
GEIPP	Global Eco-Industrial Parks Programme	International initiative supporting greener, more resource-efficient industrial parks.
GHG	Greenhouse Gas	Gases contributing to global warming and climate change.
GNU	Government of National Unity	Multi-party government arrangement formed post-election.
GHCs	Green Hydrogen Commercialisation Strategy	National strategy promoting the development of green hydrogen value chains.
HOD	Head of Department	Senior official leading a provincial department.
IDC	Industrial Development Corporation	State-owned development finance institution supporting industrial growth.
IEM	Integrated Environmental Management	Framework ensuring environmental considerations are integrated into decision making.
IGCCC	Intergovernmental Committee on Climate Change	Coordination platform for climate change policy across government.
IP	Industrial Park	Designated industrial area supporting manufacturing and business activities.
ISA	Investment South Africa	Investment promotion and facilitation division under **the dtic**.
ISID	Investment and Spatial Industrial Development	**the dtic** branch responsible for SEZs, industrial parks and investment promotion.
LCE	Low-Carbon Economy	Economic system with reduced greenhouse gas emissions and sustainable energy use.
MCEP	Manufacturing Competitiveness Enhancement Programme	Incentive aimed at improving competitiveness of local manufacturers.
MEC	Member of the Executive Council	Provincial executive authority equivalent to a minister at provincial level.

MINMEC	Ministers and Members of Executive Council	Intergovernmental forum for national and provincial coordination.
MINTECH	Technical MINMEC (DG-level)	Technical forum of Directors-General supporting MINMEC structures.
MTDP	Medium-Term Development Plan	Five-year national planning instrument setting development priorities.
NCPC-SA	National Cleaner Production Centre – South Africa	**the dtic** entity promoting resource efficiency and cleaner production in industry.
NDP	National Development Plan	South Africa's long-term national socio-economic development blueprint (Vision 2030).
NEV	New Energy Vehicle	Low- or zero-emission vehicles, including electric, hybrid and hydrogen vehicles.
NEMA	National Environmental Management Act	Framework environmental legislation establishing principles and governance structures.
NEMWA	National Environmental Management: Waste Act	Legislation regulating waste management systems, licensing and EPR.
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution	South Africa's climate mitigation commitment under the Paris Agreement.
NFTN	National Foundry Technology Network	Programme supporting technological upgrading of South Africa's foundry industry.
NGP	New Growth Path	Economic policy framework focused on job creation and growth.
NOx	Nitrogen Oxides	Air pollutants contributing to smog, acid rain and respiratory impacts.
NRCS	National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications	Regulator administering compulsory product specifications for health, safety and environment.
ODG	Office of the Director-General	Office responsible for oversight and coordination of departmental operations.
PM_{10} / $PM_{2.5}$	Particulate Matter	Airborne particles that pose health risks depending on size and concentration.
RE	Renewable Energy	Energy derived from renewable sources such as wind, solar, hydro and biomass.
RCM	Regional Critical Minerals	Minerals strategy for developing regional value chains for critical minerals.
RECP	Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production	Approach improving efficiency and reducing environmental impacts in manufacturing.
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals	UN global framework of 17 goals for sustainable development.

SEMA	Specific Environmental Management Act	Sector-specific environmental legislation forming part of the NEMA family.
SETs	Sectoral Emissions Targets	Mandated GHG emissions reduction targets assigned to sectors.
SEZ	Special Economic Zone	Designated geographic area offering incentives to stimulate industrial development.
SOx	Sulphur Oxides	Air pollutants linked to acid rain and respiratory disease.
WG	Working Group	Intergovernmental coordination structures under MINTECH for thematic areas.

Chapter 1: Introduction

The Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (**the dtic**) is required in terms of Section 11(1) of the National Environmental Management Act No.107 of 1998, (NEMA) to develop an Environmental Implementation Plan (EIP). This Section requires that every national department listed under Schedule 1 of NEMA, which are deemed to be exercising functions that may affect the environment, to prepare an EIP that will be revised every five years as well as report on its implementation annually for the duration of the plan.

The purpose and objectives of the EIP are to coordinate and harmonise the policies, plans, programs, and decisions of the various national departments that exercise functions that may affect the environment. Additionally, EIPs also seeks to:

- give effect to the principle of co-operative government as stipulated in Chapter 3 of the Constitution of South Africa;
- promote the protection of the environment across the country as a whole; and
- enable **the dtic** Minister to monitor the contribution by the manufacturing industry in the promotion, and protection of a sustainable environment and a Just Transition to a Net-Zero economy in the future.

In terms of Section 13(1) of NEMA, every EIP must contain:

- a description of policies, plans and programs that may significantly affect the environment;
- a description of how the relevant national department will ensure that its policies, plans, and programs referred to above will comply with the environmental management principles set out in Section 2 of NEMA;
- a description of the relevant national department will ensure that its functions are exercised so as to ensure compliance with the relevant legislative provisions, including the principles set out in Section 2 of NEMA; and
- recommendations for the promotion of the objectives and plans for the implementation of the procedures and regulations referred to in Chapter 5 of NEMA.

Thus far, **the dtic** has been compliant with the NEMA requirement on Environmental Implementation Plan development, adoption, implementation and reporting since its inception as shown by Table 1 below. The development of the successive EIPs have been improving the previous EIP by expanding the scope of environmental governance and responding to the goals of the incumbent administration priorities as well as global environmental requirements.

Edition	Period	Key Focus Areas
1st Edition	2004-2009	Establishing initial governance frameworks, aligning departmental policies, plans and strategies with NEMA requirements.
2nd Edition	2010-2015	Strengthening environmental governance, improving compliance, and integrating Green Economy and New Growth Path requirements.
3rd Edition	2015-2020	Advancing sustainable development, increasing intergovernmental coordination, and enhancing collaboration with other government entities.
4th Edition	2020-2025	Improving cooperative governance, integrating climate mitigation and resilience, Renewable Energy adoption, and a Roadmap to New Energy Vehicle.
5th Edition (Current)	2025-2030	Strengthening intergovernmental collaboration, driving inclusive economic growth through sustainable industrialisation and job creation for a globally competitive South Africa.

Table 1*: Summary of **the dtic** compliance with NEMA requirements*

This document is the 5th iteration which sets out the EIP for the manufacturing industry sector, referred to as **the dtic** Environmental Implementation Plan (**the dtic** EIP) for the 2025 to 2030 period, presenting an ambitious plan to see **the dtic** fairly contributing to the countries endeavours of a Net-Zero carbon economy future and achieving the aspirations of Chapter 2 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa.

The development of the 5th iteration of **the dtic** EIP is anchored on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), National Development Plan (Vision 2030) (NDP), the governance goals of the 7th administration of the Republic of South Africa, and is embedded in **the dtic**'s strategic outcomes which include: *Re-industrialisation, Job Creation, Transformation and Building a Capable State,* and the interconnectedness is illustrated in Table 2 below:

Sustainable Development Goals	National Development Plan (NDP)	GNU Priorities	the dtic Strategic Outcomes
	Ch 3: Economy and Employment; with Ch 4, Ch 5, Ch 6 and Ch 8	Inclusive Growth and Job Creation	Re-industrialisation Job Creation
	Ch 9: Improving education, training and innovation; with Ch 10, Ch 11, Ch 12	Reduce poverty and tackle high cost of living	Transformation
	Ch 13: Building a capable and developmental state with Ch 12, Ch 14, Ch 7	Building a capable, ethical and developmental state.	Building a capable state

Table 2: *The foundation for the development of **the dtic** EIP*

the dtic EIP demonstrates its embeddedness with the Republic's strategic planning as it is aligned with the Medium-Term Development Plan (MTDP) 2024 - 2029, **the dtic** Strategic Plan 2025 - 2030 and **the dtic** Annual Performance Plan (APP) to ensure the effectiveness of policies and programmes of **the dtic**. Further, it is designed to respond to environmental legislative requirements, including progress towards achieving the Net-Zero carbon economy in the future.

Further, this iteration of **the dtic** EIP intends to support the implementation of the National Industrial Policy 2025 (under development) that is aimed at driving South Africa's industrial growth and transformation, through *decarbonisation, digitalisation and diversification* as the key strategic focus areas. **the dtic** EIP has been identified in the 2025/26 Annual Performance Plan (APP) of the department as the implementation tool of the Decarbonisation Strategy (under development) and the Sectoral Emissions Targets (SETs) for the period 2026 - 2030.

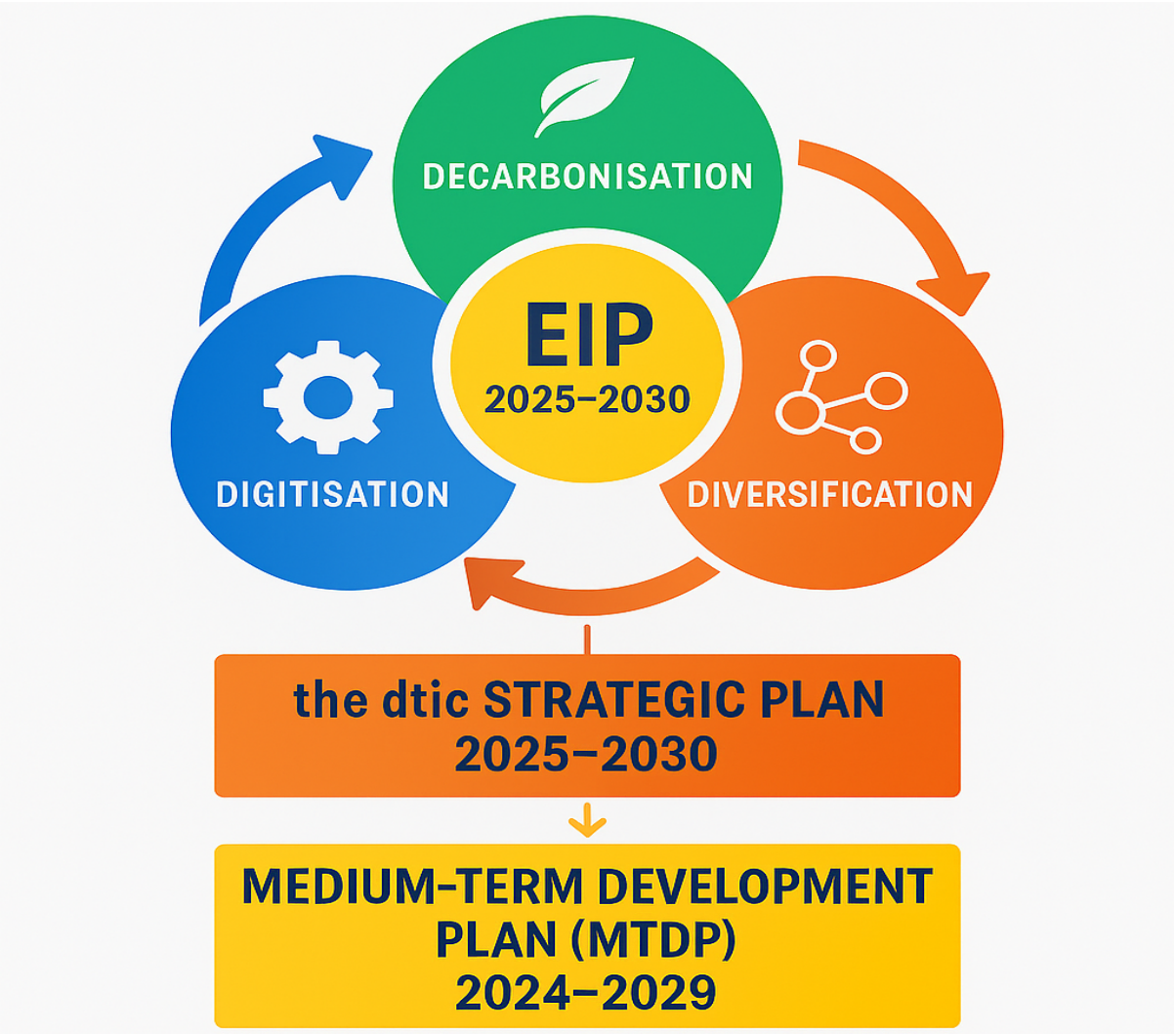

***Figure 1**: Illustration of the EIP embeddedness with the Republic's and departmental strategic planning*

The 5th iteration of **the dtic** EIP also draws from any other progressive policies, plans and regulations developed with national, regional and international level of commitment; committed to reduce impact on human health and environmental degradation. In addition, the department also undertook extensive consultation with internal stakeholders to ensure that the process of developing this plan is inclusive and expresses the environmental concerns and interests of all role players within the manufacturing industry sector in the country.

Chapter 2: Description of the dtic Policies, Plans, and Programs that may impact the Environment

2.1 Overview of the dtic

The Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (**the dtic**), previously known as the Department of Trade and Industry (**the dti**) was established through Proclamation 25 of 2019 which led to the merger of the Department of Trade and Industry (**the dti**) with the Economic Development Department (EDD) under Schedule 1 of the Public Service Act of 1994. This merger enhanced policy coherence and economic governance, consolidating efforts to promote trade, industry, and competition and has a mandate to develop the South African economy.

the dtic envisions a dynamic, industrial and globally competitive economy, that is inclusive, offers decent employment and equity. This expansive mandate has led to the establishment of several entities with regulatory responsibilities, development finance institutions, and those responsible for South Africa's standards system. These entities are collectively known as **the dtic** Group and are outlined in Figure 2 below

Figure 2: *A summary of **the dtic**'s entities (**the dtic** APP, 2025)*

2.1.1 Constitutional Mandate

The constitutional mandate of **the dtic** is to provide for a conducive environment for sustainable industrial development and economic growth, maintaining the highest standards of governance as required by the Constitution and public service regulations.

2.1.2 Legislative and Policy Mandate

The policy and regulatory mandate of **the dtic** extends to large parts of the economy; covering policy responsibilities on a diverse scale including competition, trade, gambling, consumer protection and a regulatory framework across various sectors. This includes developing commercial, industrial and trade policy, fostering a dynamic and globally competitive economy, creating quality jobs, and ensuring equitable economic transformation by overseeing areas like competition, consumer protection, and company and intellectual property laws.

2.1.3 the dtic's strategic focus

Vision

A dynamic and globally competitive South African economy harnessing on the full potential of all citizens.

the dtic's Impact Statement

Driving inclusive economic growth through sustainable industrialisation and job creation for a globally competitive South Africa.

Mission

the dtic working with its entities aims to achieve an inclusive economic growth by coordinating and enabling government wide interventions to:

- Promote structural transformation;
- Achieve stronger industrialisation;
- Transformation in terms of skills for the economy and enterprise development;
- Increase trade, investment and exports; and
- Promote the ease of doing business.

the dtic Strategic Outcomes

the dtic for the period 2025 to 2030 has outlined four strategic outcomes, which are:

- Re-industrialisation;
- Job Creation;
- Transformation; and
- Building a capable state

The outputs and activities set in this EIP are means to contribute to the achievement of **the dtic**'s apex outcomes in a manner that minimises the negative impact of the manufacturing industry sector on the environment.

2.1.4 the dtic's Programmes / Core Themes

the dtic has clustered its work based on the core themes, which collectively seek to promote a more effective and coordinated approach to the implementation of its strategic objectives. The outputs and activities set in this EIP are aligned with the purposes of the programs and will be monitored and reported on annual basis.

Programme	Purpose
1. Administration	Provide **the dtic** with strategic leadership, management and support services.
2. Trade	Build an equitable global trading system that facilitates development by strengthening trade and investment links with key economies and fostering African development, including regional and continental integration and development co-operation in line with the African Union Agenda 2063.
3. Investment and Spatial Industrial Development (ISID)	Support foreign direct investment flows and promote domestic investment by providing a one-stop shop for investment promotion, investor facilitation and aftercare support for investors as well as increase participation in industrialisation.
4. Sectors	Design and implement policies, strategies and programs to strengthen the ability of manufacturing and other sectors of the economy, to create decent jobs, promote inclusion and increase value addition and competitiveness, in both domestic and export markets.
5. Regulation	Develop and implement coherent, predictable and transparent regulatory solutions that facilitate easy access to redress and efficient regulation for economic citizens.

6. Incentives	Stimulate and facilitate the development of sustainable and competitive enterprises, through the efficient provision of effective and accessible incentive measures that support national priorities.
7. Exports	Increase export capacity and support direct investment flows, through targeted strategies, and an effectively managed network of foreign trade and investment offices.
8. Transformation and Competition	Develop and roll out policy interventions that promote transformation and competition issues through effective economic planning, aligned investment and development policy tools.
9. Research	Develop and roll out policy interventions that promote transformation and competition issues through effective economic planning, aligned investment and development policy tools.

Table 3: *A summary of the dtic's programmes / core themes*

2.2 Impact of manufacturing industry sector on the Environment

The manufacturing industry sector is a significant contributor to the global environmental challenges, caused by its extensive resource consumption (energy and water), the release of pollutants from industrial processes and transportation, and the improper disposal of chemical and solid waste, which can contaminate the natural environment. These negative environmental impacts can be clustered into 4 categories including, industrial pollution and emissions, resource depletion, ecosystem disruption and biodiversity loss and waste generation.

- **Industrial pollution and emissions**

Industrial pollution refers to the contamination of the environment from industrial activities, and manufacturing is one of those activities. This pollution can cause health problems for humans and wildlife, degrade ecosystems, and contribute to global issues like climate change. Pollution can impact the environment in the following manner; -

Reduced Air Quality – caused by the release of chemicals and particulates into the atmosphere, including gases like carbon monoxide (CO), sulphur dioxide (SO_x), and nitrogen oxides (NO_x), as well as particulate matter (PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$).

Reduced Water Quality - caused by the discharge of industrial effluent containing heavy metals, radioactive waste, organic matter, and other chemicals into bodies of fresh water. Sometimes the discharged industrial effluent used for industrial cooling may cause thermal pollution which increases the water's temperature and can harm aquatic life by decreasing oxygen levels.

Inadequately managed waste generated during the manufacturing processes may result in *soil and land pollution*, leading to long-term environmental damage caused by the accumulation of solid waste and chemical seepage from improperly disposed-of industrial by-products, manufacturing scraps and hazardous chemical waste.

Climate Change and global warming – caused by Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The manufacturing is a significant contributor to carbon emissions through energy consumption, particularly from non-renewable sources. According to the latest National GHG Emissions Inventory for South Africa, the manufacturing industry sector contributes 6.4% to the overall GHG profile of the country.

- **Resource depletion**

Resource depletion refers to the consumption of natural resources faster than they can be replenished, leading to a variety of environmental issues like habitat loss, pollution, and climate change. Industrial processes constitute one of the drivers of resource overconsumption and its impacts extend beyond the immediate loss of a resource to cause broader environmental degradation. Resource depletion by manufacturing industry sector is as a result of excessive extraction of raw materials as well as over-consumption of carbon-based energy and water.

- **Ecosystem disruption and biodiversity loss**

Industry development initiatives such as the construction of manufacturing infrastructure (factories) and mining activities disrupt ecosystems and can lead to loss of biodiversity. Sometimes, the use of chemicals in manufacturing processes poses

risks to human health and ecosystems if released into the environment. This disruption and loss of biodiversity is characterized by the decline of flora and fauna species, weakened ecosystems, making them less resilient and impairing crucial "*ecosystem services*" like clean air, water, pollination, and climate regulation.

- **Waste generation**

Manufacturing industry sector generates large amounts of waste that impacts the environment through pollution of soil, air, and water, greenhouse gas emissions contributing to climate change, loss of resources, and harm to ecosystems and human health. Inadequate waste management, such as open dumping and burning, releases harmful substances, while improper disposal of electronic waste (e-waste) can leach toxic heavy metals into the environment.

Despite the negative environmental impacts discussed above the manufacturing industry sector can also offers enormous potential to improve the livelihood of humans and to make major contributions to the sustainability revolution that is required. It is this potential that policymakers for Strategic Green Industrial Policy need to harness to unlock the new industrial and business opportunities that will contribute to economic growth, job creation and transformation in South Africa.

This EIP then supports the endeavours by **the dtic** of decarbonising its Industrial Policy which aims to identify and facilitate new industrial and economic opportunities and promote structural change by mitigating against negative environmental conditions arising from carbon dependency of the South Africa's manufacturing sector. Further, the decarbonised Industry Policy implies a conscious choice of new industrial development paths anchored in the country's ambition of a Just Transition to a Net-Zero economy by 2050.

Chapter 3: Cooperative Governance on Environmental Management

3.1 Local obligations in respect of environmental management and governance

In terms of Section 85 of the Constitution, the national executive authority vests on the President. The President, together with Cabinet, must initiate and implement national legislation and policy, coordinate the functions of the state departments and administration. This distribution of state powers and functions among the three spheres of government and the various departments within each sphere necessitates inter-governmental collaboration to ensure the effective functioning of the state.

This collaboration, known as cooperative governance is defined by section 40 of the Constitution which outlines the relationships between the spheres and organs of the state. There should be close cooperation within the larger state structure, recognising the distinctiveness, interdependence, and interrelatedness of the entire state. All spheres of government and all organs of state are bound by the principles of cooperative governance and intergovernmental relations.

Section 41(1) of the Constitution outlines principles of co-operative government, requiring all spheres of government to act in a way that does not infringe on the geographic, functional, or institutional integrity of other government spheres. Furthermore, the enactment of the Intergovernmental Relations Framework Act, 2005 (Act No. 13 of 2005) and the inclusion of Chapters 3 and 8 of NEMA clearly indicates that cooperative governance in South Africa is statutorily driven. Chapter 3 of NEMA stipulates procedures for cooperative governance and chapter 8 of NEMA brings a new element to cooperative governance by making provision for conclusion of environmental management agreements with any person or community for the purpose of promoting compliance with the principles laid down in NEMA.

Therefore, the essence of this constitutional framework is to foster close cooperation between the different spheres of government in the implementation of its policies and programmes in order to provide the people with a coordinated and comprehensive approach in the delivery of services. Then the NEMA is regarded as the legislative framework that facilitates cooperative governance for environmental management in the Republic. Through NEMA, the state endeavours, inter alia, to develop a framework

for cooperative environmental governance as reflected in its purpose. The purpose of NEMA is to provide for cooperative environmental governance by establishing principles for:

- Decision-making on matters affecting the environment;
- Institutions that will promote cooperative governance; and
- Procedures for coordinating environmental functions exercised by organs of state.

The national departments listed under Schedules 1 and 2 of NEMA are deemed to exercise functions that may affect the environment or that involve the management of the environment and **the dtic** is one of the listed departments. Therefore, **the dtic** is expected to ensure cooperation; not only with the DFFE; but with other government departments that have environmental management responsibilities. Furthermore, the department has the responsibility to ensure cooperation with provinces and local municipalities on issues of environmental management for the manufacturing industry sector.

This EIP is an attempt by **the dtic** to promote cooperative governance and procedures for coordinating environmental functions within **the dtic** Group as well as on behalf of South Africa's manufacturing industry sector. It has indicated the way in which **the dtic** Group gives effect to the aspirations of the Constitution and the NEMA while exercising its functions, and the manner of compliance with the relevant legislative provisions have been described in terms of the:

- Institutional mechanisms which ensure coordination between **the dtic** and other departments that are mandated with environmental management;
- Institutional mechanisms to ensure coordination with and compliance by the **dtic**'s as a department exercising functions that may have negative impact on the environment; and
- Capacity to perform the functions, to ensure effective implementation and functioning of the mechanisms, systems and procedures for coordination.

the dtic is participating in a number of transversal committees formed to ensure environmental compliance and enforcement as well as governance committees aimed at enhancing governance systems and capacity within government as outlined by Table 4 below:

Institutional Mechanism	Lifespan	Purpose	Capacity of the department for coordination	
			Human Resource	**Budget**
Enhancing Governance Systems and Capacity				
MINMEC	On going	Forum of the Minister and the Members of the Executive Council in the environmental sector.	Ministers and MECs	Cost of employment
MINTECH	On going	Forum established for Accounting Officers (DGs) in the environmental sector.	DGs and HODs	Cost of employment
Sub-committee on EIPs and EMPs	On going	Subcommittee on EIPs and EMPs that is chaired by the DFFE, established to ensure that departments comply with environmental legal framework.	Government officials, coordinated by DFFE	Cost of employment
National Energy Crisis Committee (NECOM)	On going	Established to ensure that the Energy Action Plan is fully implemented.	High level officials across government and is led by DEE	Cost of employment
Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC)	On going	Negotiating a legally binding international instrument on plastic pollution.	Government officials from **the dtic**, and DFFE	Cost of employment
Global Environment Facility (GEF)	On going	Financial mechanism for international environmental conventions to fund projects protecting the global environment.	Departmental Project managers, and **the dtic**	Cost of Employment
Ensuring Environmental Compliance and Enforcement				
❖ Relevant Working Groups: ❖ WG 2: Air Quality Management	On going	The Working Group's objectives are to co-ordinate implementation, and to foster the exchange of information, consultation, agreement,	As per budget and Programme Structure	Cost of employment

❖ WG 9: Chemicals and Waste Management ❖ WG 10: Intergovernmental Climate Change Committee (IGCCC) ❖ WG 11: Advisory Committee on Environmental Policy and Law Reform ❖ Industry Waste Management Forum (IWMF) ❖ Waste Economy Committee		assistance and support among the spheres of government with respect to their relevant focus area.		

Table 4: *Summary of institutional mechanisms to enhance corporate governance*

Chapter 4: Integrated Environmental Management for the Manufacturing Sector

Integrated Environmental Management (IEM) is a procedure designed to ensure that the environmental consequences of developments (or projects) are understood and adequately considered in the planning process. It provides a guide for the development process and serves to refine and improve proposed policies, programmes, and projects through a series of procedures that are linked to the development process.

The purpose of IEM is to promote the application of appropriate environmental management tools and approaches in order to ensure the integrated environmental management of sectoral activities. For the manufacturing sector, IEM is a comprehensive framework intended to entrench sustainable development practices throughout the entire lifecycle of manufacturing value chains. It is guided by the overarching principles of the NEMA and involves the application of a series of assessment tools and management systems.

4.1 Core IEM principles for the manufacturing sector

- *Life-cycle approach ("Cradle-to-grave"):* Manufacturers must consider the environmental impact of their products from the extraction of raw materials, through design, production, and operation, to eventual decommissioning and disposal. This includes integrating environmental concerns into every stage of the process.
- *Holistic perspective:* IEM requires the integration of environmental considerations with social and economic factors in an interconnected way. Decision-making should not occur in isolation but should consider all components of the environment and their impact on all people.
- *Integration of tools and stakeholders:* It encourages collaboration between authorities, businesses, labour, and civil society. This involves integrating appropriate tools, such as Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) and Environmental Management Systems (EMS), throughout the project life cycle.
- *Polluter Pays Principle:* A key driver of IEM, this principle holds manufacturers accountable for the environmental damage they cause, and the costs associated with remediation.

- *Sustainable Development:* The ultimate objective is to find a balance between economic development and environmental protection to promote sustainable development for present and future generations.
- *Just Transition:* The equitable shift from a high-carbon, resource-intensive economy to a low-carbon, climate-resilient, and sustainable economy, ensuring that no one is left behind, especially workers, communities, and vulnerable groups impacted by the transition.

4.2 Key environmental legislation and tools for implementation

- *National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), 1998:* NEMA is the cornerstone of environmental regulation in South Africa, providing the legal framework and principles for IEM. It governs the process for requiring Environmental Authorisations (EA) for specific manufacturing activities that may have a significant environmental impact.
- *National Environmental Management:* Waste Act (NEMWA), 2008: This act is particularly relevant for manufacturers. It regulates waste management, with a strong emphasis on waste minimisation, recycling, and the safe disposal of hazardous waste. NEMWA also includes Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) regulations, which require producers to manage the entire lifecycle of their products, including post-consumer waste.
- *National Environmental Management:* Air Quality Act (AQA), 2004: The AQA reforms the law regulating air quality, with specific requirements for certain industrial and manufacturing activities to reduce atmospheric pollution.
- *Carbon Tax:* The Carbon Tax Act (2019) is a national effort to encourage industries to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. It incentivises businesses to adopt cleaner production methods and transition to a low-carbon economy.
- *Climate Change Act, 2024:* Establishes a framework for carbon budgeting, adaptation, and mitigation. Climate Change Act directly impacts manufacturing by requiring emissions tracking and reduction strategies.

Tools for implementation

- *Environmental Management Frameworks (EMFs):* a strategic planning tool that maps and assesses geographical areas to balance ecological sustainability with development. It identifies sensitive ecosystems, defines environmental constraints, and informs decision-making by outlining suitable land uses, ultimately helping authorities manage environmental impacts and streamline authorization processes.
- *Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs):* a systematic, proactive process for evaluating the environmental consequences of proposed policies, plans, or programs (PPPs) at early, high-level stages. SEAs assess regional or sectoral cumulative impacts to ensure sustainability is integrated into development decisions.
- *Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs):* For new developments or expansions with potential environmental impacts, manufacturers must conduct EIAs to assess and mitigate those impacts. An Environmental Management Programme (EMPr), detailing mitigation, monitoring, and management measures, forms a crucial part of the process and must be implemented during construction, operation, and decommissioning.
- *Environmental Management Systems (EMS):* Many manufacturers use internationally recognized systems like ISO 14001 to promote continual improvement of their environmental performance. An EMS provides a structured framework for managing environmental impacts and meeting legal obligations.
- *Environmental Implementation Plans (EIPs):* Strategic plans developed by government departments to align their activities with environmental principles.
- *Sectoral Emissions Targets (SETs):* GHG emissions reduction targets, applicable to sectors or sub-sectors over a period, designed to steer sectors to make transformative changes to ensure the achievement of a long-term climate action, and to support the implementation of South Africa's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) under the Paris Agreement.

4.3 The role of the dtic in IEM considerations

the dtic's mandate is to provide for a conducive environment for sustainable industrial development and economic growth, maintaining the highest standards of governance as required by the Constitution and public service regulations. To realize this mandate **the dtic**, must recognise the IEM as a tool that provides for informed decision-making, accountability for decisions taken regarding environmental compliance in an open, proactive and participatory manner.

While **the dtic** does not directly implement IEM, it integrates environmental considerations into its decision-making mechanisms regarding industrial policies, strategies programs and institutional support. There are a number of initiatives that were undertaken by **the dtic** to showcase its commitment to considering environmental management in its policy and planning mechanisms including:

- The development of the *Green Industries Chief Directorate* within the Sectors Branch to manage and monitor **the dtic**'s response to the environmental quality management requirements and greening the manufacturing sector of South Africa;
- The establishment of the *National Cleaner Production Centre (NCPC-SA)* to assist companies in implementing resource-efficient and cleaner production (RECP) methods to reduce waste and lower costs of production;
- Establishment of the *Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and Industrial Parks (IPs),* initiatives that are designed to support green manufacturing by offering incentives and infrastructure for sustainable practices, including alternative energy and waste management systems;
- Development and the implementation of the past and the current *Environmental Implementation Plan (EIP)* to coordinate and harmonize the policies, plans, programs, and decisions of **the dtic** that may affect the environment.
- *Energy One Stop Shop (EOSS)*: an initiative by government aimed to provide a single window facilitation process, that shortens the time frame for Energy Developers to bring their projects to implementation, led by the dtic.
- *Global Eco-Industrial Parks Programme (GEIPP):* Demonstrates the viability of greening industrial parks, and supports policy mainstreaming and institutional capacity building for sustainable industrial zones.

Currently, **the dtic** is developing the Decarbonisation Strategy for South Africa intended to provide a clear signal to South Africa's manufacturing industry, setting out decarbonisation expected outcomes, and the role of government in supporting this transition to a net-zero carbon future.

This iteration of the EIP 2025 - 2030, being embedded with the Republic's strategic planning through its alignment with the Medium-Term Development Plan (MTDP) 2024 – 2029 and **the dtic** Strategic Plan 2025 -2030 will ensure the effectiveness of policies and programmes of **the dtic**; in its response to environmental legislative requirements, including progress towards achieving the net-zero carbon economy in the future. The following pieces of legislation will inform **the dtic**'s endeavours of managing the manufacturing sector's negative impact on the environment:

- *Companies Act, 2008 (Act No.71 of 2008):* To provide a new legislative framework for the incorporation, registration and management of companies; to establish a Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC) and Companies Tribunal; and to provide for matters connected therewith.
- *Industrial Development Corporation Act, 1940 (Act No. 22 of 1940):* Constitute a corporation, the object of which shall be to promote the establishment of new industries and industrial undertakings and the development of existing industries and industrial undertakings, and to provide for other incidental matters.
- *National Building Regulations and Building Standards Act 1977 (Act No. 103 of 1977*): To provide for the promotion of uniformity in the law relating to the erection of buildings in the areas of jurisdiction of local authorities and for the prescribing of building standards.
- *National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications Act, 2008 (Act No. 5 of 2008*): To provide for the administration and maintenance of compulsory specifications in the interest of public safety, health and environmental protection; and to provide for the establishment of the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications
- *Special Economic Zone (SEZ) Act, 2014 (Act No. 16 of 2014*): The Act provides a clear framework for the development, operation and management of SEZs and addresses the challenges of the IDZ Programme.

- *National Industrial Policy:* a government strategy to enhance a nation's industrial capabilities, increase economic productivity, and promote diversification beyond traditional commodities.
- ***the dtic**-led Master Plans*: A master plan is a strategic document outlining a long-term vision and a plan of action for an industry to guide future development for various sectors and to drive economic growth and address specific challenges.

Chapter 5: Strategic Objectives, Key Priority Indicators and Targets for the dtic

To address the key environmental impacts associated with the manufacturing sector's operations, **the dtic** resolved to develop strategic objectives and interventions and cluster them under THREE main themes as part of this iteration of the EIP for the period 2025 to 2030. The THREE themes include; -

- Effective Environmental Governance;
- Low-Carbon Economy and Climate Change; and
- Just Transition.

This chapter sets out the strategic outcomes, outputs, key performance areas (KPAs) and key priority indicators (KPIs) over the next five years (2020 - 2025) under the themes mentioned above. Further, it outlines the time frames as well as **the dtic** Branches that are responsible for implementation of the planned interventions.

5.1 Integrated Environmental Management and Cooperative Governance

Effective environmental governance involves establishing clear policies, strong institutions, and robust enforcement mechanisms, alongside integrating sustainability into the core departmental strategy. Key elements include setting clear goals, minimizing waste and emissions, using resources efficiently, engaging transparently with stakeholders, and adhering to regulations and self-regulation codes. This approach not only reduces negative environmental impact but also builds long-term resilience and competitiveness.

This EIP is a recorded attempt by **the dtic** to ensure that its programmes as well as policies and measures promote overall environmental sustainability of the manufacturing sector, through the following interventions:

- *Advocacy for Environmental Regulatory Evolution*: Regulatory frameworks are evolving to address pressing environmental challenges such as climate change, pollution, and resource depletion. **the dtic** intends to support this evolution by reviewing its current policy regime to respond to the emerging policy waves and associated incentive mechanisms for sustainable practices through tax incentives, subsidies, and carbon pricing mechanisms.

Having access to up-to-date and specific legal requirements is essential to update the department's response and maintaining compliance and will assist with fostering a culture of continuous improvement within **the dtic,** by achieving the following outputs:

i) *Support Manufacturing industry transition to a green economy*: The manufacturing sector's substantial energy consumption, waste generation, and resource utilization present both a challenge and an opportunity. By adopting sustainable practices, manufacturers can significantly reduce their environmental footprint while simultaneously driving innovation and profitability. **the dtic** through a number of initiatives at Branch level is supporting these endeavors by manufacturers, these include NCPC greening offerings, industrial financing schemes, circular economy programmes etc.

ii) *Promoting Circular Economy Practices in Manufacturing:* The manufacturing sector faces increasing pressure from rising natural resource extraction, with global resource consumption projected to grow by up to 60% by 2060. To mitigate the environmental and economic risks of this trend, South Africa must shift from a traditional linear economic model to a circular economy (CE) approach, which promotes sustainability through resource efficiency, waste reduction and closed-loop systems.

Government recognises CE as a catalyst for economic growth, modern re-industrialisation and a key enabler of the country's transition to a low-carbon economy. In support of this transition, **the dtic**, through the NCPC is actively participating in national circular economy programmes to promote sustainable industrial development.

❖ *Environmental Governance and Reporting:* South African manufacturing industry is facing a complex governance landscape, moving from basic compliance to proactive sustainability, driven by national laws like NEMA, international pressures (ESG) and domestic carbon pricing, exacerbated by challenges like policy inconsistency, policy uncertainty.

The role of **the dtic** is to find means of balancing industrial development with sustainability by integrating green initiatives deeply into core industrial development strategies. For the EIP 2025 - 2030, **the dtic** will focus on broader ESG adoption (Sustainability Reporting) in an attempt to effectively respond to global trends, investor demands, and national goals for a just transition.

5.2 Low-Carbon Economy and Climate Action

South Africa's manufacturing sector is a heavily carbon-dependent sector with existing and challenging socio-economic issues and it is also vulnerable to the impact of a changing climate. Through this EIP 2025 - 2030, **the dtic** submits a coordinated approach that supports inclusive growth, an equitable just transition and collaboration across **the dtic** Group, business and the government for implementation of the interventions.

These interventions are aimed at building resilience against the changing climate, decreasing GHG emission contribution, cushioning the manufacturing sector against the economic implications of transitioning from a carbon-dependent economy to a low-carbon economy including carbon taxes, border carbon adjustments (BCAs), and creating inclusive economic growth.

- *Policy Frameworks to support transition to a low-carbon economy*: South Africa's National Climate Change Response Policy aims for a developmental and transformational response by linking climate action with economic growth, job creation, and poverty alleviation such as:
    a) De-carbonisation Strategy
    b) New Energy Vehicle Roadmap
    c) Accelerated Energy Roadmap
- *Implementation of the Sectoral Emissions Targets (SETs):* **the dtic** has been allocated GHG emissions reduction targets for the period parallel to the implementation of this EIP and have been integrated into this cycle. These SETs are designed to steer sectors to make transformative changes to ensure the achievement of a long-term climate action. Thus, making a fair contribution to the country's ambition of a Net-Zero carbon economy by 2050.

5.3 Just Transition and Inclusive Growth

South Africa's initiatives for a manufacturing sector just transition focus on transforming heavy industries into a green manufacturing hub by leveraging new green industries, diversifying the economy, and fostering inclusive growth. Key efforts include developing a Just Energy Transition Framework to guide climate policies, creating an Investment Plan for a low-carbon economy, and establishing programs for worker retraining and social protection.

These plans aim to ensure that decarbonization benefits workers and communities by creating new, decent jobs and social safety nets alongside environmental improvements. **the dtic** has an opportunity to align de-carbonisation objectives with economic recovery efforts to attract the foreign investment and finance we need to fund and manage a Just Transition.

This EIP advocates for a transition to a low carbon economy that serves to address present and historical inequality, creates jobs, relieves poverty, restores our natural systems to build resilience, and, critically, leaves no one behind, through the following interventions; -

- *Economic Diversification:* Promoting new green industries and integrating them with the established heavy manufacturing sector will drive industrial growth and create new economic opportunities. Such initiatives include investments in EV Battery development, Accelerated Energy Roadmap, Regional Critical Minerals Strategy, Green Hydrogen Commercialisation strategy as well as increased manufacturing capacity of the Renewable Energy components.
- *New Economic opportunities:* Transitioning to a Net-Zero carbon economy future in a manner that protects communities and protects livelihoods. Initiatives led by **the dtic** that ensures that the transition leaves no one behind include the establishment of new Special Economic Zones, Industrial Parks, one Energy Stop Shops as well as commercialisation of low-carbon prototypes.

5.4 the dtic EIP Action Plan

The Action Plan illustrated below provides structured commitments by **the dtic** Group showcasing obligatory contributions to support the Republic achieve the aspirations of the Constitution and transition to a Net-Zero carbon economy future.

Theme 1: Integrated Environmental Management and Cooperative Governance					
Outcome	**Output**	**Key Performance Area**	**Key Performance Indicator**	**Responsibility**	**Time Frame**
Advocacy for Environmental Regulatory Evolution	Support manufacturing industry transition to a green economy	Coordination of Green Economy Projects and interventions through NCPC.	Annual Progress reports on the Green Economy Projects and interventions completed	Sectors (Green Industries; NCPC), ISID .	2025 -2030
			Annual Progress reports on RECP and Water Programme completed		
			Annual Progress reports on Energy Efficiency Programme completed		
		Develop and implement Iron and Steel Industry Decarbonisation initiatives.	Implementation Reports on the OECD Framework for Industry's Net-Zero Transition in South Africa: Decarbonising the Iron and Steel Sector	Sectors	2025 - 2030
			Implementation Reports for the UNIDO-Mitigation Action Facilitation (MAF) Project and related initiatives, completed annually.	Sectors	2025 – 2030
	Promoting Circular Economy Practices in Manufacturing.	Monitor the implementation of the Policy instruments to support Circular Economy in the Iron and Steel sector	Annual Report on the implementation of the Export Tax on Ferrous and non-ferrous Scrap Metal and the Price Preference System (PPS).	Sectors	2025 -2030
		Industrial Symbiosis Programme (ISP) interventions	No. of ISP interventions completed annually.	Sectors (Green Industries) NCPC	2025 – 2030
		Monitor and support the integration Circular Economy in Plastics Sector.	Number of interventions deployed.	Sectors (Plastics)	

Environmental Governance and Reporting	Develop and implement EIP 2025-2030		EIP 2025 – 2030 approved	Sectors (Green Industries)	2025 -2026
			Annual Compliance Reports completed and submitted to DFFE.		2025 - 2030
	Adoption of Sustainability Reporting Standards	Develop a Draft Policy Framework for Sustainability Reporting	Draft Policy Framework approved	Regulation Branch	2025 - 2030
		Issuing of the Practice Note for voluntary reporting	Practice Note issued/progress report on the uptake of voluntary reporting.		
		Amend the Companies Act to mandate Sustainability Reporting.	Amendments to the Companies Act approved.		
Theme 2: Low-Carbon Economy and Climate Action					
Outcome	**Output**	**Key Performance Area**	**Key Performance Indicator**	**Responsibility**	**Time Frame**
Policy Frameworks supporting transition to low-carbon/ green economy	Develop policy frameworks to support the transition to a low-carbon/green economy	Develop and implement SA's De-carbonisation Strategy for Manufacturing Sectors	De-carbonisation Policy Framework Approved	Sectors (Green Industries; NCPC), ISID .	2025 -2030
		Finalise and implement the New Energy Vehicle Roadmap	New Energy Vehicle Roadmap Approved	Sectors	2025 -2030
		Finalise and implement the Accelerated Energy Roadmap	Accelerated Energy Roadmap Approved	Research/ISID	2025 -2030

Implementation of Sectoral Emissions Targets (SETs)		Monitor the implementation of SETs	Annual Compliance Reports completed and submitted to DFFE.	Sectors (Green Industries)	2025 -2030
Theme 3: Just Transition and Inclusive Growth					
Outcome	**Output**	**Key Performance Area**	**Key Performance Indicator**	**Responsibility**	**Time Frame**
Economic Diversification	Support Economic Diversification interventions	Develop and implement the Regional Critical Minerals (RCM) Strategy	Approved RCM Strategy	Sectors	2025 -2030
		Trade instruments deployed to promote SA's Just Transition to a low-carbon economy	No. of Trade Instruments deployed annually	Trade	2025 -2030
	Develop the Battery Value Chain	Develop and implement the EV Battery Policy	Implementation Reports for the EV Battery Policy completed annually	Sectors	2025 - 2030
		Monitor South Africa's developments in global market share for beneficiated battery minerals.	Monitoring and progress reports from established data bases. Implementation Reports for the EV Battery Policy completed annually.	Sectors and Trade	2025 -2030
New Economic Opportunities	Support the emergence of New Economic Opportunities	Establish New Special Economic Zones	No. of new SEZs established.	ISID	2025 -2030
		Establish new Industrial Parks	No. of new IPs established	ISID	2025 -2030
		Establish new Energy One Stop Shops (EOSS)	No. of EOSS established	ISID	2025 -2030
		Commercialisation of Prototypes	No. of prototypes commercialised	ISID	2025 -2030

Table 5: ***the dtic*** *EIP Action Plan*

Chapter 6: Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation

6.1 Implementation of the dtic EIP

To ensure the successful implementation of **the dtic** EIP 2025 – 2030, the development process followed a structured, consultative and evidence-based approach aimed at ensuring accountability and promotion of cross-sectoral collaboration. Further, **the dtic** EIP is anchored on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), National Development Plan (Vision 2030) (NDP), the governance goals of the 7th administration of the Republic of South Africa, and is embedded in **the dtic**'s strategic outcomes which include: *Re-industrialisation, Job Creation, Transformation and Building a Capable State*. The key steps in **the dtic** EIP development process included:

- *Review of Previous EIPs*: Lessons learned from 2004-2025 editions were analysed to improve implementation strategies;
- *Legislative and Policy Alignment:* The EIP was developed in accordance with the requirements of NEMA Chapter 3, and is embedded in the Republic's strategic planning as it is aligned with the Medium-Term Development Plan (MTDP) 2024 – 2029, **the dtic** Strategic Plan 2025 -2030 and **the dtic** Annual Performance Plan (APP) in an attempt to ensure the effectiveness of policies and programmes of **the dtic**;
- *Stakeholder Consultations:* Engagements were conducted with **the dtic** Branches; and
- *Drafting and Internal Review*: The draft EIP was compiled, reviewed internally by **the dtic** Branches, and refined based on feedback received.

6.2 Lessons Learnt from Previous EIP Cycles

Over the years, the development and implementation of successive Environmental Implementation Plans (EIPs) at **the dtic** proved to be challenging but have provided valuable insights into environmental governance, intergovernmental collaboration, and sustainable development. The following key lessons have been identified from the 2004 - 2025 EIMP cycles:

6.2.1 Successes and Best Practices

- *Enhanced understanding of environmental legislative framework:* **the dtic**, through meaningful engagement with environmental legislative framework, has improved policy alignment and environmental decision making of the department.
- *Improved compliance with environmental legislative requirements:* Greater adherence to the compliance requirements of National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) and related specific environmental management acts (SEMAs) such as NEM: Air Quality Act, NEM: Waste Act, Climate Change Act and other policies has strengthened environmental governance by **the dtic**.
- *Integration of Environmental Priorities:* **the dtic** has developed interventions that prioritises environmental sustainability such as the development of the Green Industries Chief Directorate, the National Cleaner Production Centre – SA etc.
- *Stakeholder Engagement:* **the dtic** stakeholder involvement have contributed to more inclusive and transparent environmental decision-making.

6.2.2 Challenges Encountered

- *Fragmented Governance Structures:* Despite improvements and successes gained, the intra- and interdepartmental coordination remains a challenge, with sectoral silos hindering holistic environmental management;
- *Inconsistent Implementation by **the dtic**:* While some Branches have integrated environmental considerations effectively on their operations plans, and have committing targets on the EIP, they still struggle with implementation due to resource constraints and lacking appropriate instruments;
- *Limited Compliance and Enforcement Capacity:* Insufficient human and financial resources have impacted the ability to monitor and enforce effective EIP implementation;
- *Funding Constraints:* Currently **the dtic** does not have a funding mechanism for environmental related projects. Greening as a criterion for funding application is not yet prioritised.

6.2.3 Recommendations for the 2025-2030 EIP

- *Strengthen intra- and Interdepartmental Coordination:* Establish a more structured mechanism for collaboration among environmental, economic, and infrastructure sectors as well as among **the dtic** Branches and **the dtic** Group.
- *Enhance Monitoring and Reporting Systems:* Implement standardized data collection, monitoring, and evaluation frameworks to track progress effectively.
- *Increase Financial and Human Resource Allocation:* this EIP advocates for increased funding and staffing for environmental compliance and programmes such as NCPC and NFTN.
- *Promote Innovation and Technology Use:* Leverage digital tools for environmental monitoring, impact assessments, and data management
- *Foster a Culture of Continuous Improvement within **the dtic**:* Move beyond minimum compliance to proactively promote sustainability and environmental friendliness, which can drive innovation and create a competitive advantage.

6.3 Monitoring and Evaluation

To ensure accountability and tracking, the Green Industries Chief Directorate will assume the coordination, monitoring and evaluation role for the implementation of this EIP. However, **the dtic** EIP Implementation Committee, constituted by designated official for all the Branches that have targets in this EIP, is proposed and is to be co-chaired by the Green Industries Chief Directorate and the Office of the Director-General.

- Annual implementation reports from **the dtic** Branches with targets in this EIP to inform the consolidation of the EIP Annual Compliance Report prepared for submission to the DFFE EIP Subcommittee.
- A Mid-term evaluation (in 2027/28 FY) that will serve as assessment to evaluate implementation effectiveness which could inform if there is a need to adjust targets.

6.4 Reporting

Section 16(1)(b) of NEMA requires that every organ of state report annually within four months of the end of the financial year on the implementation of its gazetted EIP. The Annual Compliance Reports is compiled and signed by the Director-General of the

reporting sectoral department and submitted to the Subcommittee on EIP/EMPs at the DFFE. Further, Section 16(2) of NEMA empowers the Director-General of the DFFE to monitor compliance with environmental implementation plans and environmental management plans. **the dtic** EIP Implementation Committee will ensure compliance with this requirement.

7. Conclusion

the dtic Environmental Implementation Plan 2025 – 2030 marks a significant step towards achieving cooperative environmental governance and procedures for coordinating environmental functions within **the dtic** as well as on behalf of South Africa's manufacturing industry sector. Further, it is a bold initiative by **the dtic** to make a fair contribution the country's ambition of a Net-Zero carbon economy by 2050.

This plan builds on lessons learned from the previous iterations of **the dtic** EIPs and incorporates a structured, results-driven approach to environmental management, ensuring alignment with anchored on the national and departmental strategic priorities. This EIP serves as a foundation document for guiding decision-making, policy alignment, and coordinated implementation of the decarbonisation strategy initiatives across **the dtic** branches. It also promotes an integrated, multi-sectoral approach to address challenges such as climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution control, and resource management by the manufacturing sector.

7.1 Key Takeaways

- *Strengthened Collaboration within **the dtic**:* The plan fosters enhanced cooperation between **the dtic** branches, ensuring the effective execution of environmental responsibilities.
- *Policy and Legislative Alignment:* This EIP is an attempt to align sectoral environmental initiatives with key legislation, policies, and strategic frameworks, such as NEMA, SEMAs and the Climate Change Act.
- *Clear Implementation Framework:* The inclusion of a detailed action plan ensures that effective environmental governance is executed in a structured and accountable manner.
- *Enhanced Monitoring and Reporting:* The development of a robust monitoring and evaluation system; through the EIP portal, ensures that the EIP implementation progress is tracked, challenges are identified, and corrective actions are initiated.

7.2 Recommendations

To ensure the successful implementation of **the dtic** EIP 2025-2030, the following steps are crucial:

- *Deepen Integrated Governance* by institutionalising cross-departmental and intergovernmental coordination mechanisms, ensuring that NEMA principles and EIP targets are embedded in all planning instruments, including **the dtic** Strategic Plan, **the dtic**-led Master Plans and **the dtic** Annual Performance Plans (APPs).
- *Enhance Monitoring, Data and Accountability:* Implement a robust monitoring and evaluation system, linked to clear indicators and annual compliance reports, to track progress and inform adaptive management, as **the dtic** EIP 2025 – 2030 is an implementation instrument for the De-carbonisation Strategy for South Africa's manufacturing industry.
- *Resource Mobilisation:* Adequate resources (human capital, financial and technical) should be allocated to support the implementation of the identified key priorities areas.
- *Stakeholder Engagement:* A participatory approach should be maintained to ensure that Branches of **the dtic** and business associations are engaged in decarbonisation decision-making processes.
- *Regular Review and Adaptation:* Environmental challenges are dynamic, requiring adaptive management strategies. The EIP should be periodically reviewed and adjusted to incorporate emerging trends and governance requirements.

the dtic EIP 2025 - 2030 is a living document that will evolve with changing environmental governance and policy landscapes. Through coordinated action, shared responsibility, and commitment from all Branches**, the dtic** can successfully implement this EIP.

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9. Acknowledgements

the dtic, wishes to extend a word of gratitude and appreciation to the staff in the Green Industries Chief Directorate and all branches of the department that contributed constructive inputs during the successful development phase of this plan. Further, the inputs and support from the members of the Sub-committee on EIPs and EMPs that is chaired by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment are highly appreciated.

This Environmental Implementation Plan 2025 – 2030 for **the dtic** could not have been finalised without your valuable inputs. The role played by Regulations, Incentives, Sectors as well as Investment and Spatial Industrial Development branches cannot be over-emphasized; it surely reflects the comprehensive inclusiveness of a coherent government system.

10. Approvals

The Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (**the dtic**) Environmental Implementation Plan (EIP) 2025 - 2030 is signed hereunder.

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Mr. Simphiwe Hamilton

The Director-General: **the dtic**

Date: 28 / 04 / 2026