



## POSITIONING BLACK ENTREPRENEURS FOR INDUSTRIAL GROWTH

“One of the key instruments that government is employing to support women to start their businesses and cooperatives is Development Finance Institutions.

We urge the private sector, especially banks, to come to the party and provide loans to women, especially women in rural areas, as part of promoting the economic development and growth envisaged in the National Development Plan.”

*His Excellency President Jacob Zuma, during the 60th anniversary of the National Women's Day Celebrations, Union Buildings, Pretoria  
09 August 2016*



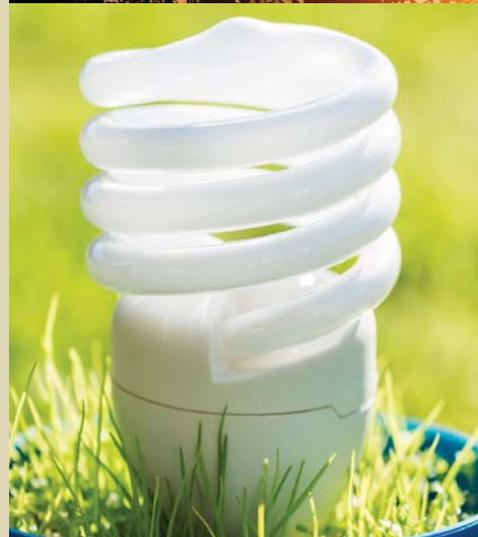
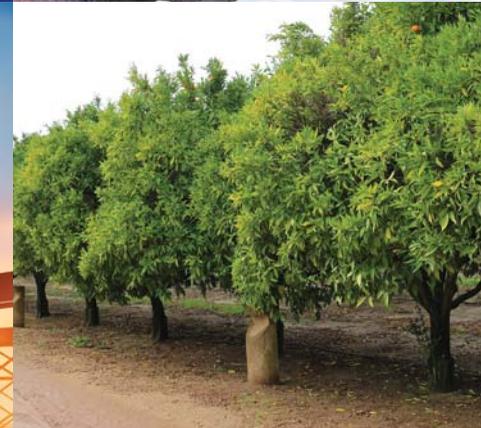
*His Excellency  
President Jacob Zuma,  
President of the Republic of  
South Africa*

# CONTENTS

Foreword by the Hon. Minister of Trade and Industry	1
About this Report	2
Performance Highlights	3
About the NEF	5
How the NEF Creates Value	9
Stakeholder Engagement	13
Enterprise-Wide Risk Management	17
Overview of the Economic Environment	24
Report of the Chairman	26
Report of the Chief Executive Officer	30
Report of the Chief Financial Officer	34
Performance Review	42
Investing in Human Capital	47
Governance	53
Assurance	58
Report of the Audit Committee	59
Profiles of the Board of Trustees	60
Profiles of the Executive Committee	63
Annual Financial Statements	65



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## Positioning black entrepreneurs for industrial growth

The image on the front cover of this **Integrated Report 2016** is a metaphor for a development financier that leads the way in charting the growth of black entrepreneurs in South Africa. As a change agent and a symbol of leadership, the queen stands as an assertion of the NEF mantra that "a black woman's place is at the forefront of the economy". Versatile, nimble and powerful, the queen, which is adorned in the orange hue of the National Empowerment Fund (NEF), leaps forward to light the path, denoting the organisation's role as a catalyst that helps shape the strategic thinking and entrepreneurial acumen of its beneficiaries. This, the NEF achieves through providing key interventions such as investor education, socio-economic facilitation, business planning support, incubation, business training, financial support and mentorship to black entrepreneurs. This is for the benefit of small and medium enterprises, rural and community businesses, women-owned businesses, as well as those with the potential to become industrialists. With the NEF on board, black entrepreneurs are well-positioned to propel South Africa's economy to flourish.