### CONFIDENTIAL

### **SARS 2.0**

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2013

### SARS 2.0 – Executive summary

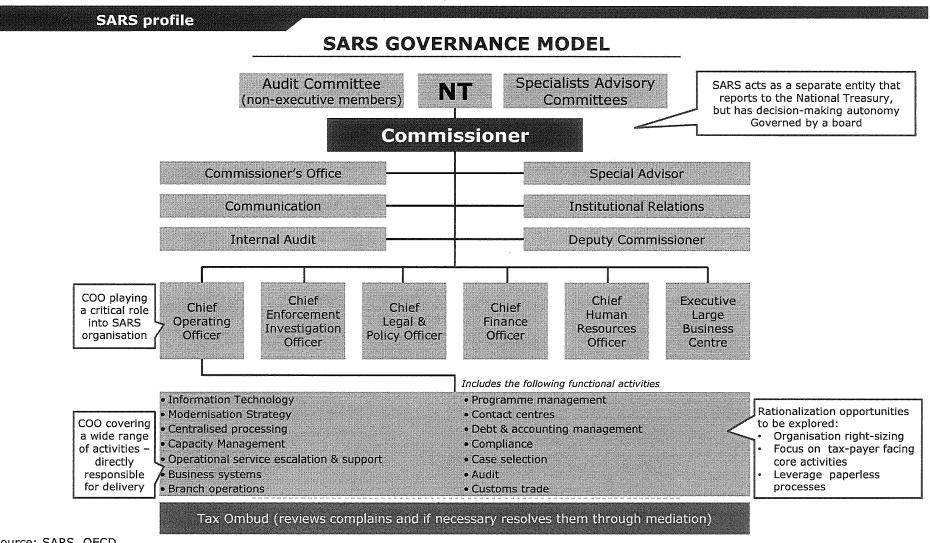
In the decade, SARS modernisation program has delivered results...

- SARS has made a number of changes through the first *Modernisation Program*, eq.:
  - Relevant increase of individual & corporate taxpayers
  - Successful adoption of eFiling to facilitate collection process (>90% in SA)
  - Managed to run operations within the allocated government budget
- But significant challenges still need to be addressed:
  - Even if eFiling is a great innovation, it **did not help to reduce cost of revenues ratio** (high compare to peers at 1.1%). Moreover questions arise on **potential discrimination** (access to internet) and need to be addressed
  - **Key SARS programs**, such as **Customs**, **still need to be delivered** critical initiatives and structures to be put in place to support economic value creation, making customs a revenue machine (eg. US or Australia).
  - Illicit economy not under control

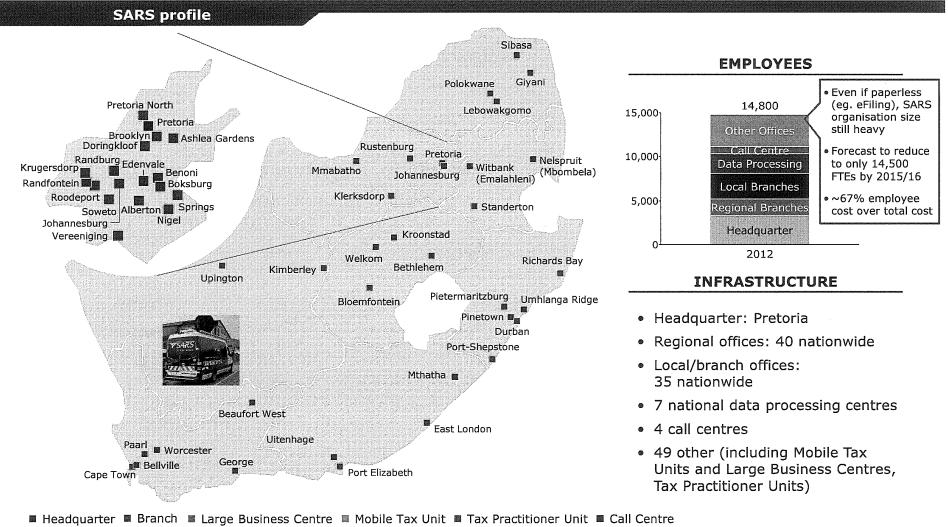
...but to achieve
our ambition
and make the
difference,
SARS needs
to address
key strategic
concerns

- In order to <u>transform SARS</u> into an <u>innovative revenue</u> & <u>custom agency</u>, SA government will have to run a <u>profound strategy refresh</u> and <u>focus on</u> execution to reach SARS real full potential:
  - Define clear KPIs to guarantee SARS focus on relevant drivers
  - Deliver on the **3 main imperatives**:
    - ▶ Increase economic value for South Africa
    - ▶ Integration and collaboration with national and international counterparts
    - Full fairness and transparency to taxpayers
  - Develop the **critical enablers** to **support imperatives deployment**:
    - > IT systems, and more specifically the enhanced SA Data Base, incorporated in the Phoenix Ecosystem
    - → **Enforcement structures and tools** to support day-by-day imperatives respect.
    - Organisation and skills

### SARS is structured as an independent body, reporting directly into NT and with a separate audit committee



### Today SARS has a wide territorial presence in South Africa, through branches, mobile units and technical sites



Source: SARS, OECD

## Budget to SARS based on estimated expenditures (not performances) – rationalisation opportunities may exist

#### **SARS** profile

#### 1.14 Government grants

SARS' main source of income is an annual grant from Parliament for its services, based on estimated expenditure for

performing any specific act or function on behalf of Government in the collection of administered revenue.

 SARS was sustainable for the past year (R880M surplus) and over time (R2.8B of accumulated surplus), but important questions arise:

### SARS P&L\* (2012/13 RM)

FUNDS AVAILABLE		FUNDS ALLOCATION	
National treasury grants	9,149	Employee cost	5,873
Rendering of services	16	I Administrative Lexpenses	1,494
Other income	282	Professional and special services	751
Interest received	146	Depreciation and amortisation	509
		Impairment loss	71
		Finance cost	15
Total revenues	9.593	Total costs	8,713

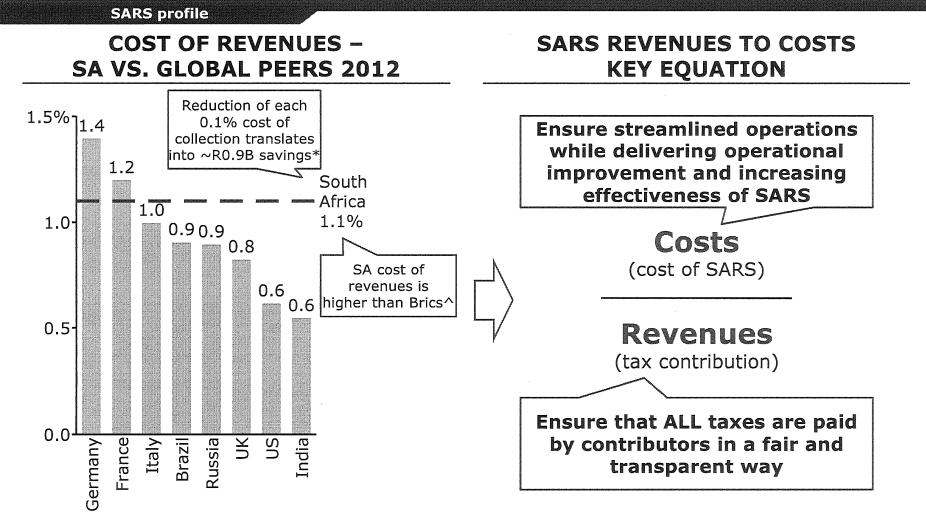
Operating surplus^: R880M

- Funds allocation should be based on tangible outcomes, generating economic value for SA
- SARS organisation should be incentivised to generate value efficiently and in a fair way
- Costs optimizations exist and need to be implemented
  - Employee costs are the most important cost bucket
  - Wide & inefficient branch network
  - IT capability not at full potential (further cost savings through dematerialisation)

Note: \* refers to the Economic Entity; ^ Actual surplus for the year of R872M after deduction of surrender of surplus funds, loss on disposal of assets

and taxation; \*\* SARS 2013/14 budget Source: SARS Annual Report 2012/13

# SARS has higher costs for revenues ratio – Fixing the costs to contribution equation is a priority



Note: \*Calculation based on reverse engineering of total cost as % of revenues reduced by 0.1%; ^Excluding China (not reporting data)

Source: SARS, OECD

### Even if eFiling represents 90% of total filing, there are doubts about its real efficiency to drive tax collection

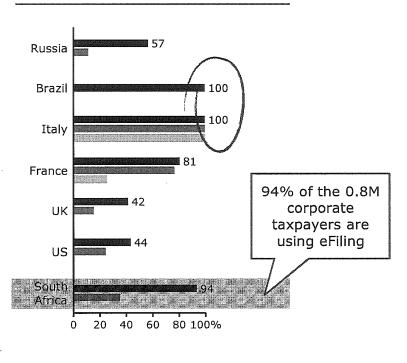
SARS profile

#### % OF EFILING OVER TOTAL FILING

#### PERSONAL INCOME TAX

### Only Italy & Brazil Russia 13 performed better Brazil 100 Italy Germany France 99% of the 4.8M individual taxpayers are using eFiling South Africa 40 60 80 100% 20 2004 **2009 2011**

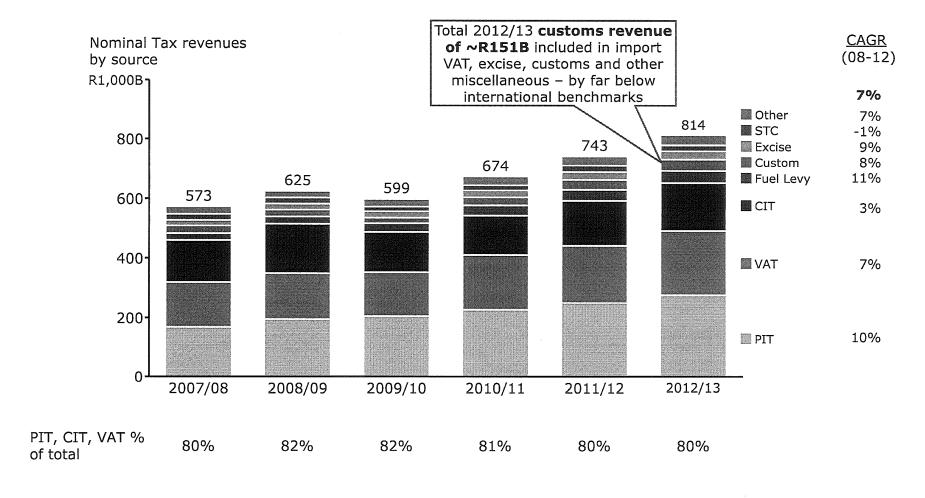
#### **CORPORATE INCOME TAX**



SARS needs to go beyond the collection process, and focus on driving tax collection effectiveness

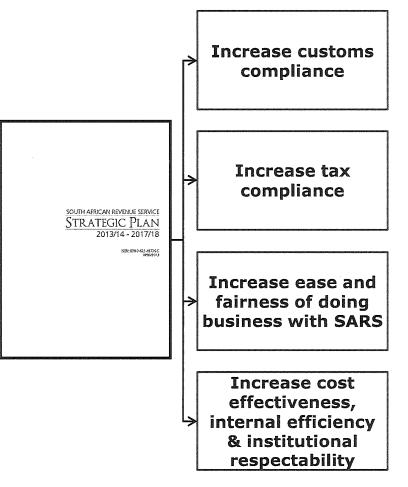
...but relevant aspects such as Customs are not delivering the expected economic results...





### 2013-2018 new strategic plan is challenging – Quality of execution will be a critical success factor

#### SARS profile



- To complete the initial Modernisation Program, SARS defined an additional program for the 2013-2018 period
- The new 2013-2018 plan will:
  - **Perform the uncompleted tasks** from the initial Modernisation Program (eg. Customs) and
  - Focus on new strategic initiatives (eg. Fairness of doing business)
- New plan is challenging in terms of delivery (24 major work stream to be ran parallel). Budget allocated to external support in the next 3 years seems not to be sufficient to sustain it (from R710M in 2013 down to R375M in 2016)

## Proposed new Vision and Ambition for SARS – A new Transformation Agenda must be set up

**SARS Transformation Agenda** 

Mission & Vision

**SARS 2.0** 

Transform SARS in an innovative revenue and custom agency that enhanced economic growth and social development, and support the countrie's integration into the global economy in a way that benefits all South Africans

**KPIs** 

### **Targets, Metrics & Incentives**

- Revenues linked to outcomes
- Customer advocacy metrics
- Program performances monitoring

**Imperatives** 

### Increase economic value

Integration & collaboration

Transparency & Fairness

- Reach tax collection full potential:
  - High net worth individuals
  - Corporates
  - Customs
  - Enforcement
  - Cost to contribution optimisation
- Maximise SARS impact through increased collaboration with:
  - Relevant SA Ministries
  - Social security entities (UIF, SASSA, NSFAS, ...)
  - International counterparties
- Guarantee maximum transparency and fairness to taxpayers through:
  - Fair treatment of all cases based on clear rules and procedures
  - Zero corruption at all levels

Enablers

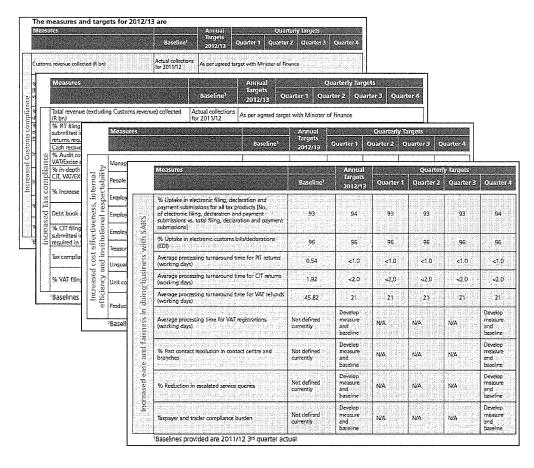
IT systems – Enhanced SA data base – Phoenix ecosystem

Enforcement – Structures & tools

Organisation & capabilities

## Today SARS tracks many KPIs, focusing on outcome and process compliancy

#### **KPIs**

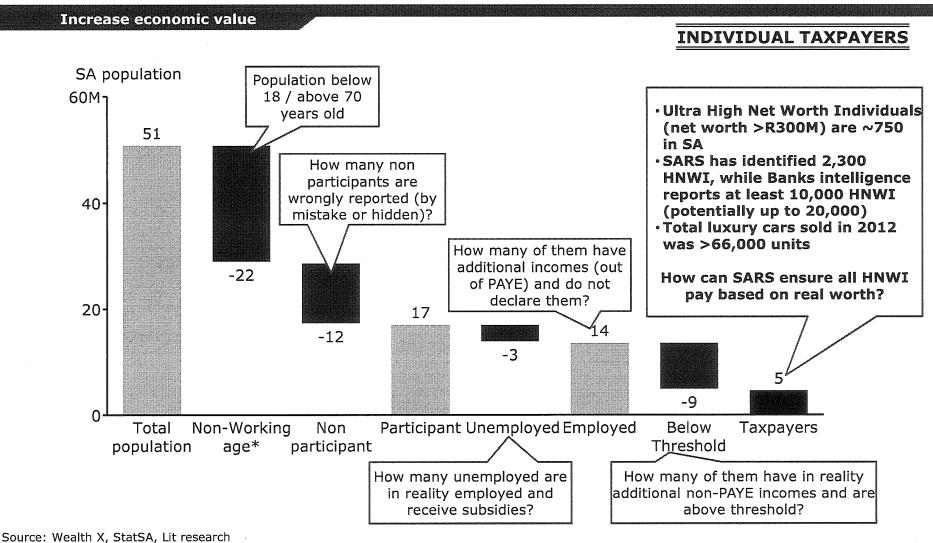


- KPIs track all relevant metrics for each outcome set by SARS
- Yet, more specific and financial
   KPIs should be tracked:

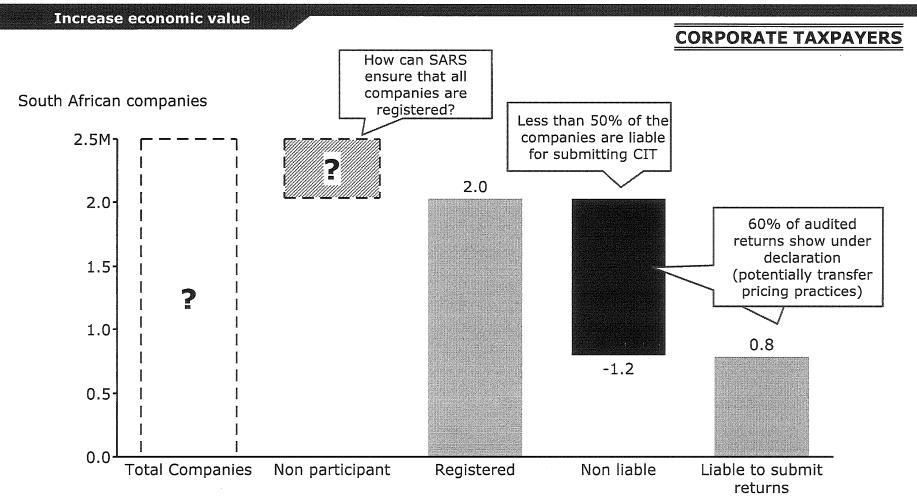


- Gap between actual vs full potential collection, to monitor the effective contribution to SA economic value creation
- Performance against cost allocations towards new projects and initiatives
- Customer satisfaction and advocacy to ensure buy-in of taxpayers and improvements on service delivery

# Several questions arise regarding taxpayers compliance – Can SARS increase his real individual taxpayers base?



## Several questions arise regarding taxpayers compliance – Corporate taxpayers show clear tendency to under declare



Note: No relevant source is able to estimate the total number of companies in South Africa

Source: SARS

# Critical programs such as Customs are behind completion – Short term opportunities to generate revenues for SA

Increase economic value

#### **CUSTOMS PROGRAM**

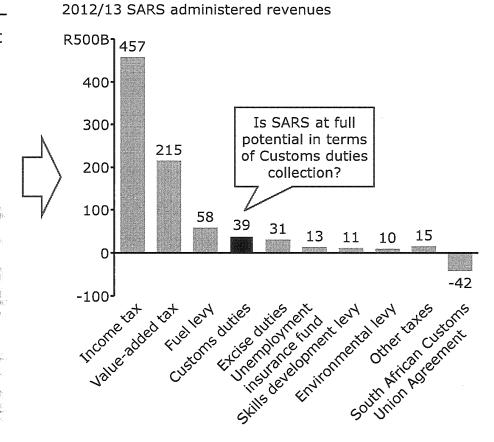
- SARS customs program active since 2009 but still not effectively fighting against fraud, corruption & illegal imports
- Customs service delivery is still substandard making the process of importing / exporting very confusing & unattractive

"Current law does not provide SARS with adequate information to determine any possible safety, security, fiscal and economic risks in relation to these goods. No value is declared [...]. This lack of information does not promote the application of efficient and effective customs controls and risk management at the port of entry"

All Africa on new Customs Bill submitted to Parliament, August 2013

"We, at [multinational company] haven't yet figured out how to quickly process imports and we still get double-taxed when we export in Africa through South Africa"

Marketing director, Multinational company

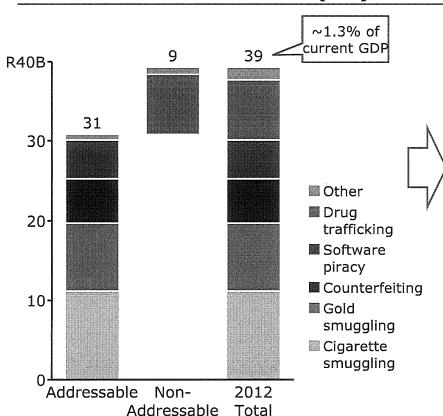


Source: Lit research

# Illicit economy estimated at R40B, tax loss superior to R6B. Opportunity to be measured & recovery plan to be launched

Increase economic value

### ESTIMATED VALUE OF SA ILLICIT ECONOMY (RB)



- Considering Tax to GDP of ~28% this means a loss of R11B taxes
- Considering that:
  - Drugs are illegal -> 0 tax revenue
  - Cigarette tax rate includes excise (effective tax rate of ~45% in 2001, most likely higher now)
- Total real loss for the country is ~R6.1B tax revenues (after cost of collection)
- This figure represents ~0.7% of taxes collected today

# Border control needs to be efficient (to increase trade) and effective (to decrease illicit trades)

Increase economic value

### FRENCH GOVERNMENT INCREASED EFFORTS TO PLAY A KEY ROLE AS A HUB FOR EUROPE

- One of the main goals of the French border control ("Douane") is to increase European trade flow through France
  - Become the hub for global merchandises entering Europe, making sure that procedure in place facilitate business
  - Ensure this comes in a sustainable way in order to allow only legal merchandise to enter





### AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT ACTIVELY MANAGES BORDER CONTROLS TO FIGHT ILLEGAL IMPORTATIONS

- One of the main goals for Australian border control is to protect Australians from illegal migration and merchandise smuggling
  - Protect environment from alien diseases
  - Preventing the entry of people who are a direct or indirect threat to the Australian community
  - Significant income for the country derived from fines applied to illegal importations



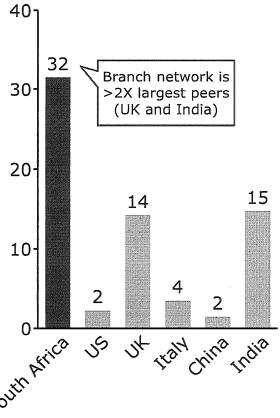


SARS can decrease illegal trade inflow /outflow and "earn with punishments"

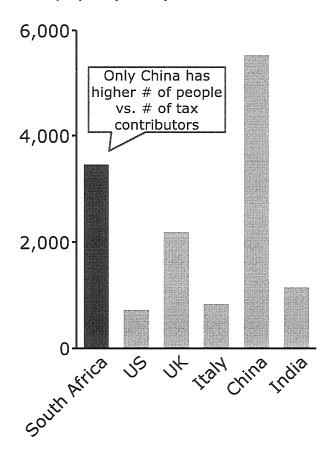
## Even if eFiling usage is high (>90%), SARS branch & FTEs are substantially higher than peers

#### Increase economic value

# of branches per million active taxpayer (2012)



# of FTEs per million active taxpayer (2012)



Note: calculated as total number of branches / FTEs per million taxpayers

Source: Lit research, IMF, OECD

### SARS is a key player in the wider Government ecosystem effective collaboration & integration to be further pursued

#### Integration & collaboration

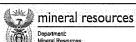
### **SA** ministers



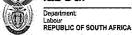
















### **Civil Society**



Single view of taxpayers (including Social security contributions, dividends) Full access to financial information (including

### **Corporates**





**PRELIMINARY ILLUSTRATIVE** 





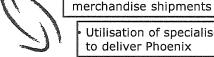








Utilisation of specialised skills to deliver Phoenix



### State owned enterprises



PUBLIC MARESTMENT







dividends, shareholdings,



Efficient & centralized collection of info on taxpayers **Efficient** 

Centralized iollection of taxes Greater control on levies (regulation and forecast)



SA government agencies









## For example, integrating Social Security Contribution into SARS can deliver significant upside

**Integration & collaboration** 

### TYPICALLY THE MERGE HAS LONG TERM ADVANTAGES

### Commonality of core processes

- Identify and register contributors
- Systems to collect information from employers
- Withholding taxes from employers
- Effective collection systems
- Audit of accuracy of data

### • Efficiency of resources

- Economy of scale as the marginal cost for additional analysis is minimal
- Core competencies of tax and social organisations
- Lowering government administration cost
- Lowering taxpayers and contributor compliance costs
- Unique tax data base

### YET IN THE SHORT TERM THE TRANSITION IS PAINFUL

- Implications to the registering, calculating and recoding systems may cause difficulties due to new procedures and the introduction of new forms
- Calculation of charges are different and require a **specific skill set**
- Typically before merge the taxpayers are registered with different codes and requires reconciliation of relevant tax information

### **International examples**

- UK: elimination of administrative duplications; simplification of taxation and social security frameworks
- Netherlands: simplification of social security collections; reduction of overall employees

Source: OECD

### Transparency & fairness are key elements to on-board taxpayers and gain credibility

#### **Transparency and Fairness**

#### **TRANSPARENCY**

- Critical for tax bodies to report on service performance measurements and transparency of actions to citizens
  - Citizens want to know how well their efforts are utilised for a better South Africa
  - Listening to the voice of customers can unleash opportunities to better service customers and therefore increase taxpayers compliance
  - Today SARS does not survey taxpayers to understand what can be done better and differently

#### **International examples**

- New Zealand: customer satisfaction helps understand how effective customer think the revenue authority is in delivering timely and appropriate services
  - Netherland: Revenue authority made significant improvement in turnaround times as this was perceived week by customers

#### **FAIRNESS**

- Ensure that ALL taxpayers make their fair contribution to South Africa
  - While there has been an overall increase in taxes paid as a result of simplifications, there are still some individuals / companies trying to go around the system
  - A more professionalised enforcing towards those individuals / companies raises the overall level of fairness of the taxation system
  - SARS first compliance report in 2012, but no information on gaps

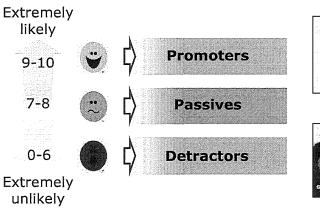
#### **International examples**

- Italy: Italian tax authority is supported by the "Guardia di Finanza" which is a national police special body dealing with financial crimes (tax evasion, customs protection, drugs trade)
  - GdF has tools and budget to ensure prevention, investigation and reporting of financial evasion and violations

# New relationship model with taxpayers - Leveraging their feedback and rewarding their compliance with rules

**Transparency and Fairness** 

### LEVERAGING TAXPAYER FEEDBACK







### TAXPAYER HISTORICAL RATING TO REWARD LOYALTY





- Tracking and leveraging taxpayer feedback will drive substantial changes into SARS organisation and employees behaviours.
- A better knowledge and understanding of taxpayers experience will allow to improve the relationship at all critical touch points by.
- SARS should recognise and reward individual & corporate taxpayers constantly compliant across time with SA tax regulation
- Recognition may result into lower tax rate or preferred treatment in case of litigation with SARS
- Repeat fraudsters will be traced and severely treated

## Different bodies can contribute to the creation of an enhanced SA database - SARS can leverage it

IT systems - Enhanced SA DB

#### **ILLUSTRATIVE**

### **Taxpayers**

- SARS individual tax records
- SARS companies registration database (CIT, VAT, customs, etc.)

### **Social Security**

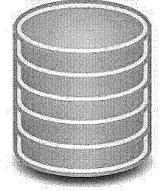
- Unemployment status
- Social security granted
- Studies support
- Etc.

### **Assets registration**

- Real estate holdings (within city councils)
- Car registrations (Motor Vehicle Department

### South African National Centralised Database (citizens and companies)





PHOENIX ECOSYSTEM

### SA citizens / Home Affairs

- Household data (passport, marital status, demographics, etc.)
- Courthouse legal records (e.g. frauds)
- Foreigners data

### Financial holding assets

- Cash holdings (Post Office bank accounts)
- Stock / bond holdings (JSE)
- Other financial assets (IFAs / banks registry)

### Private company's holdings

- Intellectual properties registrations (CIPC)
- Industry Ministries (e.g. DTI, Agriculture, etc.)

### Establishment of enforcement units to fight illicit economy & tax evaders – Partnership with other governmental bodies necessary

#### Enforcement

#### **BORDER UNITS**



MARINE, AIR & TERRESTRIAL UNITS



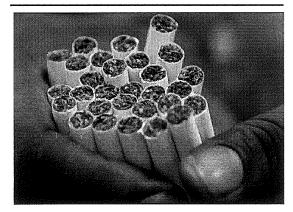
#### **ANTI-DRUGS UNITS**



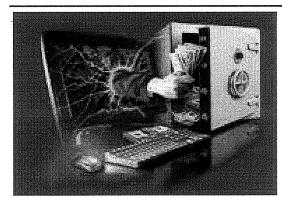
FINANCIAL FRAUD UNITS



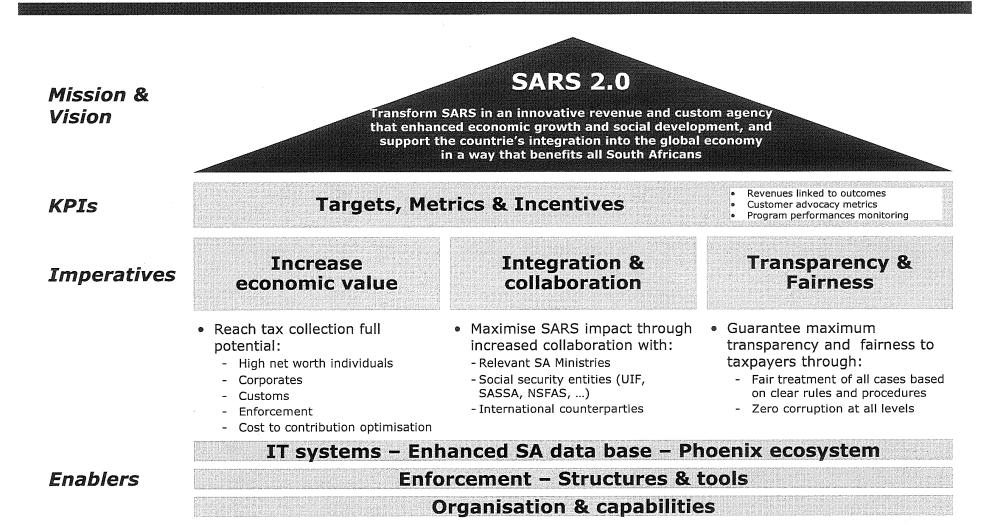
### ANTI-COUNTERFEIT GOODS UNITS



FRAUD UNITS



## SARS 2.0 – Future of SARS will depend on management & Government to deliver on key imperatives



### Back-up

# In the last decade, SARS Modernisation program has driven significant changes. Effort to be continued until 2018

**SARS** profile

2005

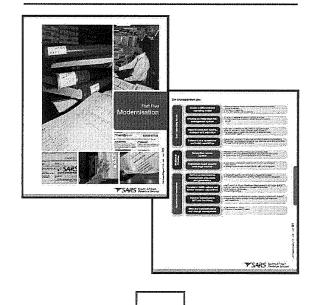
2007-2012

2013-2018

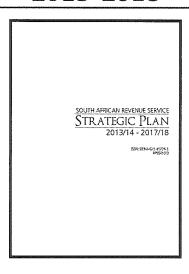
SARS vision 2010



First strategy paper developed by the Commissioner (Pravin Gordhan)



Modernisation Program launched in 2007, and partially completed



Modernisation Program up-dated in 2012 to complete and integrate previous plan

Source: SARS documents; Lit research

### Except for VAT, SARS and regulator managed to increase substantially the registration of individuals & companies

### **ANNUAL REGISTERED TAX PAYERS**

