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Will 2026 be a positive year for SA's economy?

George Bernard Shaw once wittily remarked that if all the economists were laid end to end, they'd never reach a conclusion. Contrary to Mr Shaw's remark, many South African economists think that the tide is turning in favour of our economy. However, they also caution that the fluidity of geopolitical tensions may just dampen the mood in 2026.

Economic uncertainty and persistent geopolitical tensions

"South African Reserve Bank (SARB) governor Lesetja Kganyago has cautioned that 2026 is likely to be marked by economic uncertainty, amid unsettled markets and rising geopolitical tensions."

https://tinyurl.com/3cw8wckm

Great news for the rand in 2026

"The rand has marked one of its best years in recent memory in 2025, with economists expecting the good times to keep rolling in the new year."

https://tinyurl.com/y746p774

South Africa's economy sees growth; infrastructure investment and structural reforms still needed

"Infrastructure investments are vital for attracting investors into the country, which will improve the production base and thus lead to job creation. Investment in labour-intensive sectors, such as manufacturing and construction, is crucial."

https://tinyurl.com/ky3jj66x

Opportunities, challenges await SA's economy in 2026

"South Africa is poised for significant economic growth in the coming years, provided it takes advantage of the current conditions and makes adjustments to its policies."

https://tinyurl.com/bdhcc58x

The tide is turning for South Africa

"South Africa's economic outlook for 2026 is showing signs of gradual improvement, with a more stable macroeconomic environment and modest growth prospects compared to recent years."

https://tinyurl.com/57cd9c4k

South Africa removed from EU high-risk list

"South Africa has been formally removed from the European Union's list of "High-Risk Third Country Jurisdictions", a move National Treasury on Tuesday said will ease financial friction with Europe and support trade, investment and cross-border payments."

https://tinyurl.com/5bexx3by

Data shows early signs of economic recovery

"Is the South African economy finally turning the corner? Not yet – but early indicators suggest the possibility of a slow, fragile recovery. While the country's economic fundamentals remain under strain, recent data shows signs that South Africa may be entering the first phase of a better growth, investment, and job-creation cycle."

https://tinyurl.com/44y9ejza

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