**Introduction**

This report explores how facts/data contribute towards the development of South Africa. The way in which the topic was interpreted was first through classifying the various sectors of development. The sectors of developments we decided to focus on included infrastructure, social development and economic growth. Although keeping in mind that development in one sector often correlates with development in the others. Articles based on these sectors were researched, followed by identifying how statistics could be used to lead development in South Africa. From this research a questionnaire was formulated for an interview.

When deciding on someone to interview, we looked for a person working in the engineering Industry that will have experience on how engineers operates. The person we settled on was a Project Manager, Renier Swiegers. He has the firsthand experience in the Engineering/construction industry, giving not only an engineer's overview but also details on decision making around Infrastructure.

**Literature review: (2 articles)**

Article 1

A synopsis of the significant ideas regarding poverty and inequality in South Africa is presented henceforth. It is noted that there are higher levels of poverty in rural areas than in urban areas. An assessment of drivers, constraints and opportunities are made known in the literature. The level of inequality and poverty and the people affected is also emphasized.

The poverty level worsened between 2011 and 2015 and it is recognized that the highest poverty rates are consistently exposed as Black South Africans. The unemployment rate has increased drastically since 2008 whilst obtaining a post-secondary qualification is no longer a safeguard against joblessness. Moreover, the youth unemployment rate remains awfully high at about 40%. Gender inequality is also prevalent as there is a higher probability of males getting skilled employment as opposed to females.

There are, however, strategies that can be used to combat these issues. It is observed that with rising levels of education, poverty tends to decline. Utilizing this strong correlation, education should be promoted to reduce the absurd poverty levels in South Africa. The unemployment rate is another infamous issue that South African’s face, especially among/amongst the youth. Providing opportunities for the youth is therefore crucial to alleviate this issue. Furthermore, outreach programs can be implemented to develop poor communities. Uplifting the youth and underprivileged people of South Africa is paramount to creating a better future and breaking the cycle of poverty.

Reference

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and The World Bank (2018) ‘Overcoming Poverty and Inequality in South Africa: An assessment of drivers, constraints and opportunities’. doi: 10.1596/29614.

**Questions**

How can engineers use data/facts in guiding/leading the development of South Africa?

1. In your understanding, how could lack of communication between engineers and statisticians negatively affect the deliverables being produced?
2. How does your company strive to use local resources to promote development in SA?
3. What strategies can be used to develop graduates in SA?
4. Does your company have an outreach program to help develop SA? If so, how?