It was September 26th 1950 when our pioneers pursued a vision to commercialise the production of oil from coal.

Following that landmark decision, Sasol has transformed from a single petrochemical site in Sasolburg in the Free State, to become a global integrated chemicals and energy company with a presence in 37 countries.

By adding value to natural resources, our 31 000-strong workforce – 85% of whom are in Southern Africa – proudly contribute to security of supply in liquid fuels, chemicals and lower-carbon electricity.

Throughout our 65-year history, Sasol has played an important role in South Africa and the broader region’s industrialisation, growth and socio-economic development.

Unique to our heritage are the towns of Sasolburg and Secunda, home to our local mining and petrochemical operations, but more importantly, thousands of our employees and their families.

In all markets where Sasol operates, we work diligently towards ensuring our presence realises positive benefits for all our stakeholders, in particular those communities that host our facilities.

To ensure our communities continue to prosper, in 2012 we launched our Sasol Ikusasa public private partnership initiative, through which we are investing over R800 million in the municipalities of Sasolburg and Secunda to upgrade infrastructure, education, health and security, over a four-year period.

This is in addition to substantial investments in various sponsorship assets, like Sasol Banyana Banyana, and corporate social responsibility programmes in education and skills development, community development, the environment and employee volunteerism.

Today, as we continue to diversify and expand across geographies and markets, we have strategically repositioned ourselves to advance our gas-based growth programmes concentrated largely in Southern Africa and North America.

Having extensively reviewed our long term aspirations, we are clear that our contributions in Southern Africa will be sustained for decades to come through our “nurture and grow” strategic focus, aimed at sustaining and expanding our integrated value chain in Southern Africa to the middle of the century.

This signals our unwavering commitment to the region, as evidenced by the billions of rands that Sasol has, and will continue to invest in the local economy, which totalled R76 billion in both capital and operational spend this past year.

While we may be a global enterprise, our roots remain firmly planted in South Africa – a country that Sasol is proud to call home.

We indirectly employ more than 12 000 people through our network of 383 service stations

Our combined capital and operational spend in Southern Africa was R76 billion in 2015

In 2015, 88% of our R752 million corporate social responsibility spend was invested in our host communities in South Africa

We run one of the largest bursary schemes in the country with 440 current bursary holders and 1 800 learnerships sponsored in 2015