



**MINISTRY OF TOURISM  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY:**

**QUESTION FOR ORAL REPLY:**

**Question Number: 220**  
**Date of Publication: 15 June 2020**  
**NA IQP Number: 21**  
**Date of reply: 23 June 2020**

**Mr P G Moteka (EFF) to ask the Minister of Tourism:**

(a) Which programmes did her department cancel due to the Covid-19 pandemic and (b) what measures did she put in place to ensure that those persons that were going to participate would earn an income during lockdown? NO1548E

**REPLY:**

It is important to note that, as indicated below, due to the tourism sector not being operational during the national lockdown, the Department has revised and tabled its 2020/21 APP resulting in projects being revised, deferred to the next financial year or transferred for implementation in branch business plans.

**PROGRAMME 1: Corporate Management**

a) Programmes cancelled

No external programmes were cancelled. Revisions to the APP affected internal programmes as follows:

- Two initiatives implemented to promote reasonable access were moved to the Business Plan:
  - Development of Standard Operating Procedures for procurement and maintenance of assistive devices.
  - Implementation of the Disability Rights Awareness Month Programme.
- The Diversity and Disability Management Session for Supervisors of People with Disabilities (PWD) was shifted from Q1 to Q2.
  - The drafting and consultation on the Sexual Harassment Policy were moved from Q1 to Q2.
  - The Workshop on Gender-based Planning, Budgeting, Monitoring and Evaluation Framework was moved from Q1 to Q3

b) Measures put in place to ensure support

N/A

## **PROGRAMME 2: Tourism Research, Policy and International Relations**

### a) Programmes cancelled

- The Dubai Expo – Cancelled due to COVID-19
- Indaba 2020: Hosting of the Indaba Ministerial Session 2020. – While the Indaba 2020 was cancelled due to COVID-19, meetings of multilateral fora continue via virtual platforms.
- Innovation Conference – Postponed due to COVID-19 with date to be confirmed

### b) Measures in place to ensure support.

The cancellation of the above-mentioned projects due to COVID-19 has provided an opportunity for Programme 2 to redirect focus to priorities related to COVID-19. Programme 2 is undertaking 2 additional research projects on the impact of COVID-19 on tourism as well as a monitoring report on the implementation of the Department's Tourism Relief Fund.

## **PROGRAMME 3: Destination Development**

### (a) Programmes cancelled:

- (1) No programmes have been cancelled. As the nature of the Programme is project driven, many of which have an infrastructure component, all targets have been revised and some Annual Performance Plan (APP) targets have been moved into the Business Plan. It is important to note that all projects initially planned will still continue albeit with revised targets and timelines.
- (2) The following targets have been moved into the Business Plan from the APP:  
*Output indicator 1:* A pipeline of nationally prioritised tourism investment opportunities managed, Establishment and piloting of a tourism preparation facility for the development of concepts for: Karoo Succulent Garden; Magwa Falls and Tea Estate development; Port St Johns Precinct; Orange River Mouth development; Northern Cape Coast Waterpark, Development of designs of prioritised elements at township tourism precincts: Vilakazi Street; Mdantsane; Galeshewe; Khayelitsha.  
*Output Indicator 2:* Interpretative signage, Monitoring implementation of Leopard Trail and the Interpretation Centre at Baviaanskloof World Heritage Site and the construction works at Shangoni Gate, and bid documentation for the Phalaborwa Wild Life Activity were excluded.
- (3) The annual target for Work Opportunities delivered through the Working for Tourism Programme was revised from 5 109 Work Opportunities to 2 500 Work Opportunities. This revision was necessary as the nationwide lockdown impacted on implementation of both skills' development and infrastructure related programmes.

### (b) Measures in place to ensure support.

For the period of the lockdown, all participants enrolled in the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) continued to receive their stipends. This, is as per the Directive from the Minister of the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure, who is the custodian of the EPWP.

## **PROGRAMME 4: TOURISM SECTOR SUPPORT SERVICES**

### (a) Programmes cancelled:

- (1) National Tourism Safety Monitors *Programme* – The Programme was implemented in all nine provinces including in some of the park managed by South African National Parks (SANParks),

and the national gardens under the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) for the training, mentorship and deployment of unemployed youth in tourism attractions and sites. The programme, while impacted by COVID-19, has not been cancelled but has been suspended until tourism is fully operational. The status is as outlined below;

- Some provinces like Mpumalanga, Eastern Cape, Northern Cape, KwaZulu Natal and Limpopo have completed phase one of the programme and were to move to phase two but plans for phase two have since been put on hold.
- The programme, affecting around 570 beneficiaries, has been suspended as of June 01 2020 in the following provinces Gauteng, Western Cape, Free State, North West and SANBI.

(2) *Tourism Incentive Programmes* - All Tourism Incentive Programmes have been removed from the APP to the business plan due to uncertainty around the budget allocation in order to focus on the revision and refinement of programme guidelines and processes.

(3) *Tourism Human Resource Development* (Programme Planning & Implementation) – Recognition of Prior Learning Programme for Chefs and Coastal Marine Tourism are postponed to the next financial year as these were going to be done in partnership with CATHSSETA.

(b) Measures in place to ensure support.

(1) *Tourism Monitors Programme*

- The SANParks programme with is 302 beneficiaries is continuing.
- Proposals under consideration to repurpose Tourism Monitors while the sector is non-operational, including utilising the participants at schools to screen and monitor learners to ensure compliance with the health protocols for COVID-19. The database has been submitted to the departmental official who sits at the NatJoints.

(2) *Tourism Incentive Programmes*

While all Tourism Incentive Programmes have been moved to the Business Plan due to uncertainty around the budget allocation, none of them have been cancelled at this stage. In this regard, the Tourism Grading Support Programme, Green Tourism Incentive Programme and Tourism Transformation Fund will continue to process pipeline applications, but it is unlikely that we will issue many (if any) Calls for Application for the Market Access Support Programme until at least Q4. There will also be a delay in the launch of the Tourism Equity Fund pending the outcome of discussions with the IDC.

(3) *Incubation Programme*

The objective of the Department's Enterprise Development and Support Programme is to provide development support to SMMEs in order to improve their sustainability in the tourism sector. The Department is rolling out a business support and incubation programme located within or proximal to tourism hubs or destinations as one of the strategic ways to address the challenges within the tourism SMME sphere. SMME operators or beneficiaries have been selected in consultation with provincial departments of Tourism and Economic Development and local municipal structures. Pre COVID-19 there were three programmes in Bushbuckridge (Manyeleti) in the Mpumalanga, Ba-Phalaborwa (Phalaborwa) in the Limpopo Province and Dawid Kruiper (Mier) in the Northern Cape. The appointed service providers assisted those incubatees with preparation and submission of applications for various relief funds and measures. The Department is in the process of amending the Service Level Agreement and Project Implementation for the three (3) Incubation Business Support Programmes to enable the service provider to provide relief support to the incubatees as per the survey conducted in April 2020 which identified business compliance; preparation of financials, business sustainability planning and upskilling as the key interventions to support SMMEs.

(4) *Collaboration with the Department of Small Business Development (DSBD)*

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Department of Tourism and the Department of Small Business Development was signed in 2016 to provide a framework for

cooperation and facilitate collaboration between the parties. The two Departments are in the process of signing an addendum to the MoU on cooperation in providing relief and support to SMMEs in our sector during the Risk Adjusted Strategy Level 3-1 and post COVID-19.

(6) *Tourism Human Resource Development* (Programme Planning & Implementation)

- For the period of the national lockdown, all participants enrolled in the EPWP could receive their stipends until the end of May 2020, as per the Directive from the Minister of the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure who is the custodian of the EPWP.
- The Department paid stipends for the National Youth Chefs Programme from March – April 2020.
- Stipends were further provided under the Hospitality Youth Training Programme (HYTP) from March-May 2020 in:
  - Limpopo Province
  - Gauteng Province (paid until April 2020 as learners exited)
  - Northern Cape Province
  - North West Province
  - Kwa-Zulu Province (paid until April 2020 as learners exited)
  - Western Cape (Cluster 1 and Cluster 2)

(7) The following *HYTP* will continue and complete all the deliverables including CATHSSETA notational hours:

- Limpopo Province until June 2020,
- WC Cluster 1 until June 2020,
- WC Cluster 2 until July 2020,
- NW until July 2020

**Note:** (i) Free State Province Youth in Tourism Programme has not commenced and as such no payment of stipends has been made.

(ii) Youth programmes in the Northern Cape Youth in Tourism Programme and Northern Cape National Youth Chefs Programme are temporarily suspended and will resume once the sector is operational.