



**MINISTER
TOURISM
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY:

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3198. Ms N R Mashabela (EFF) to ask the Minister of Tourism:

- (1) Whether she will furnish Ms N R Mashabela with the current status of the (a) Tourism Equity Fund and (b) Tourism Transformation Fund; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether the specified funds are operational; if not, why not; if so, what (a) amount has been allocated and disbursed to date, (b) number of beneficiaries have been supported, and (c) measures are in place to ensure that the funds advance meaningful transformation in the tourism sector;
- (3) (a) how is the budget aligned with the pronouncements of the 2026 State of the Nation Address (SONA) and (b) what implementation programmes have been developed to align with the policy directions of the SONA?

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REPLY

- (1)(a) In March 2026, the Department agreed that the Small Enterprise Development and Finance Agency (SEDFA) would finalise the processing of the Tourism Equity Fund (TEF) applications by the end of May 2026 in accordance with the updated Implementation Plan. However, SEDFA subsequently requested an extension until 15 August 2026, which has been granted, subject to a written and binding commitment from SEDFA to meet the target dates and milestones within the period of extension, so that there is no recurrence of a request for a further extension beyond 15 August 2026.
- (1)(b) As at 31 March 2026, 41 Tourism Transformation Fund (TTF) applications have been approved, of which 31 were fully disbursed, nine (9) have signed agreements in place and are ready to commence implementation, and one (1) was in final negotiations to conclude the agreement with the National Empowerment Fund (NEF).

(2)(a) The TEF and the TTF are operational. As at 31 March 2026:

- SEDFA reported TEF commitments of R238.6 million from Departmental funds, of which R166 million were disbursed.
- NEF reported TTF commitments of R150.4 million from Departmental funds, of which R124.7 million were disbursed.

(2)(b) As of AT 31 March 2026, 23 transactions were approved under TEF, and 41 transactions were approved under TTF.

(2)(c) In the case of the TEF, eligibility criteria require applicants to have or achieve at least 30% black shareholding. In comparison, the TTF eligibility criteria require applicants to have at least 51% black shareholding.

(3)(a) The analytical work that informs budget requirements is conducted at the branch level, where programme and technical expertise reside. Each branch, as the primary custodian of its respective programme mandate, is responsible for undertaking the necessary planning, research and analytical processes to determine the financial resources required to deliver on its committed outputs and targets in the APP.

(3)(b) In line with the policy direction outlined in the SONA, the Department partnered with Youth Employment Services to implement initiatives, such as the demand-led skills training, graduates and students placement, to strengthen the capacity of the tourism sector in South Africa, to enhance youth employability and promote long-term, sustainable employment within the sector. The budget set aside for these initiatives is R330 140 433.00

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