



**MINISTRY OF TOURISM  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR ORAL REPLY:**

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**“Ms B T Ngcobo (ANC) to ask the Minister of Tourism:**

With reference to transformation imperatives espoused in the White Paper on Development and Promotion of Tourism in South Africa in 1996, (a) what has his department done in the past 20 years to transform the tourism industry, (b) how has his department supported women in increasing their participation in tourism and (c)(i) what and (ii) how many tangible and successful entrepreneurial projects has his department supported in advancing the sustainability of small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs)?”

**NO2482E**

**REPLY:**

**(a)** A major first step in the implementation of transformation in the Tourism sector was the appointment of the BEE Charter Council (later renamed Tourism Empowerment Council of South Africa- TECSA) in 2005. This followed the release of the BEE strategy by the Government through the Department of Trade and Industry (the dti) in 2003. The Council facilitated the first Tourism Charter, which was finalised in 2006. This was followed by a baseline study on the state of transformation in the tourism industry, the results of which were released at the first Tourism BEE Conference (held in April 2007) and helped outline areas of relatively good performance and those requiring intervention in respect to transformation. The Tourism B-BBEE Sector Code was then gazetted in 2009 and has been under implementation since that period.

As part of pursuing the objectives of transformation, the principles of the Tourism Sector Code were introduced as key criteria for the Emerging Tourism Entrepreneur of the Year Award (ETEYA) and the Tourism Support (Incentive) programme then implemented by the dti. The Tourism Charter Council (former TECSA) continues to monitor the implementation of the Tourism Sector Code and is currently undertaking work in liaison with stakeholders to align the Tourism Codes with the recently amended dti Generic Codes. The next step of the alignment process will be a programme to create awareness about the aligned Codes and the implementation of programmes to support the broad transformation agenda.

- (b)** The National Department of Tourism (NDT) through its partnership with the Tourism Enterprise Partnership (TEP) focuses on a number of transformational objectives, including the development of women through support programmes such as business support, market access, access to information, access to finance and skills development. The ongoing development support of the Tourism Enterprise Partnership is targeted at a minimum of 45% women and women-owned businesses. At present, TEP's database of over 3 500 SMMEs consists of more than 45% women-owned businesses.
- (c) (i)** TEP has, in partnership with the Department, developed and implemented a successful small, medium and micro enterprise development programme. This partnership, which is co-funded by the Department and TEP, has delivered successful results over the past 14 years.
- (ii)** The specific deliverables achieved by TEP during the term of the partnership, from 2000 to 2014 are:

Employment (jobs created by TEP supported enterprises)	79 671
Economic (increase in turnover of TEP supported enterprises)	R7.3 billion
Number of employees trained	29 219
Number of business owners mentored	541

More recently, TEP has implemented the following programmes:

Market Access support : Number of enterprises that have benefitted from market access support	2 701
Development Needs Assessments (DNA's): Number of assessments completed	179
Number of employed learners that completed a management learnership programme	218