



**tourism**

Department:  
Tourism  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

1 April 2019

## **APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN FOR TOURISM FUNDING**

The Department of Tourism encourages all eligible tourism businesses to apply for the Tourism Transformation Fund (TTF) and the Green Tourism Incentive Programme (GTIP) during the application period from 1 April to 30 June 2019.

### **Tourism Transformation Fund**

All majority black-owned tourism enterprises interested in accessing funding to establish a new tourism business or expand an existing tourism business, are encouraged to apply for the TTF.

The Fund is a dedicated capital investment mechanism to drive transformation in the tourism sector in a more direct and impactful manner. It aims to assist small and micro black-owned tourism enterprises to expand and grow with the goal to create a new generation of black-owned, youth, women and community based tourism industrialists. The TTF was developed in collaboration with the National Empowerment Fund (NEF) and all applications and approvals are managed by the NEF.

The Fund provides a combination of grant funding, debt financing and equity contributions to facilitate capital investment in the tourism sector by prospective black investors. The grant funding portion is used to reduce the approved loan finance and/or equity contribution by the NEF for tourism projects. This component is capped at 30% of the total funding required or R5 million (whichever is greater) per applicant.

The application window is opened from 1 April until 30 June 2019. Applicants should submit their application forms and supporting documents directly to the NEF, who will assess applications for commercial viability and TTF eligibility. Information, application forms and guidelines are available on the NEF website at [www.nefcorp.co.za](http://www.nefcorp.co.za) and enquiries can be directed to [tourism@nefcorp.co.za](mailto:tourism@nefcorp.co.za).

### **Green Tourism Incentive Programme**

The GTIP is a resource efficiency incentive with the objective to encourage private sector tourism enterprises to move towards the sustainable management of water and energy resources whilst adhering to responsible tourism practices. Through grant funding, the programme assists private sector tourism enterprises in reducing the cost of investing in more energy and water efficient operations, while increasing their competitiveness and profitability in the long term. To date, 308 enterprises have so far applied for funding through this initiative. The fourth window for applications is open from 1 April until 30 June 2019

The GTIP broadly offers the following to qualifying tourism enterprises:

- 90% of the cost for a new resource-efficiency audit or the full cost for reviewing an existing resource efficiency audit by the National Cleaner Production Centre of South Africa; and
- grant funding to qualifying small and micro enterprises on a sliding scale from 30% to 90% of the total cost of implementing qualifying resource efficiency interventions, which is capped at R 1 million.

This programme is managed by the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) on behalf of the Department and all applications and approvals are managed by the IDC. Applicants should submit their application forms and supporting documents directly to the IDC, who will assess the applications. Information, application forms and guidelines are available on the IDC website at [www.idc.co.za](http://www.idc.co.za) and enquiries can be directed to [gtip@idc.co.za](mailto:gtip@idc.co.za)

The Department thanks the 208 enterprises that applied for the TTF and 308 that applied for the GTIP and encourage other qualifying enterprises to make use of these mechanisms as we grow tourism together.

**ENDS**

**ENQUIRIES:**

Mr Blessing Manale

**Chief Director: Communications**

Department of Tourism

Tel: +27 (0)12 444 6607

Cell: +27 (0)66 487 8867

Email: [bmanale@tourism.gov.za](mailto:bmanale@tourism.gov.za)