

# Tourism fund a shot in arm

---

The Citizen (KZN) · 26 Jan 2021

---

The tourism industry is one of the hardest hit by the pandemic, with many small businesses having had to shut up shop and retrench workers.

But there is hope that the establishment of the Tourism Equity Fund by the Small Enterprise Finance Agency, in partnership with the department of tourism, will help to alleviate the financial suffering of businesses in the sector.

The fund, which will be launched today, is aimed at creating an inclusive and growing tourism sector by supporting entrepreneurship and investment on the supply side.

It will offer a combination of debt finance and grant funding for large capital investment projects in the sector.

The South African Economic Reconstruction and Recovery plan has identified the tourism sector as one of the key priority areas in reviving the economy after the pandemic.

President Cyril Ramaphosa will address the virtual launch of the fund, which is aimed at driving transformation in the tourism sector.

The launch of the fund will be broadcast on major news channels and streamed on a range of government platforms.

—