



# GOVERNMENT SUPPORTING BUSINESS



## Government and private sector have agreed to establish a Solidarity Fund ([www.solidarityfund.co.za](http://www.solidarityfund.co.za)) to which anyone can contribute.

- Chair: Gloria Serobe and deputy chaired by Adrian Enthoven
- To be managed by reputable people
- Government seeded the fund with a R150 million contribution
- Private sector foundations and wealthy families have contributed an additional R4.5 billion so far.


**1**


Department of Tourism will make R200 million available to assist distressed SMMEs in the Tourism sector.

**2**


Companies that are in distress due to COVID-19 will pay wages to workers via the Temporary Employee Relief Scheme.

**3**


Employees who fall ill will be paid via the Compensation Fund; larger companies will continue to pay their employees.

**4**


IDC in conjunction with the DTI has put together a R3 billion relief package to assist vulnerable firms and to fast track financing of companies relevant to fighting the pandemic.

**5**


The Department of Small Business Development will make R500m available to assist distressed small and medium enterprises. The Debt Relief Fund will provide assistance to meet existing debts and repayments.

Visit [www.smmesa.gov.za](http://www.smmesa.gov.za) and complete the application form.

**6**


4 Million employees will be assisted via the Employee Tax Incentive Scheme. The subsidy will pay R500 per month for the next 4 months to private sector employees earning below R6 500 p.m.

The measures will take effect from 1 April 2020. Refer to: [www.sars.gov.za](http://www.sars.gov.za) or [www.treasury.gov.za](http://www.treasury.gov.za)

**7**


The South African Revenue Service (SARS) will increase employment tax incentives reimbursements to compliant employers from twice a year to monthly. 75 000 SMME's with a turnover of R50 million or less will be allowed to delay 20% of their employees' tax liabilities over the next 4 months. As well as a portion of their provisional corporate income tax payments without penalties or interest over the next 6 months.

The measures will take effect from 1 April 2020. Refer to: [www.sars.gov.za](http://www.sars.gov.za) or [www.treasury.gov.za](http://www.treasury.gov.za)

**8**


Businesses are encouraged to assist employees with UIF claims if they have been laid off, are working short time or been infected by the COVID-19 virus. Youth employees are covered by UIF funding if they have been laid off, been put on short time or, are unwell and unable to work due to the COVID-19 virus.

Call the UIF at **0800 843 843** for dedicated help with COVID-19 benefit enquiries during the lockdown. See attached guideline and application documentation.

## OTHER RELIEF MECHANISMS:

Major banks (ABSA, FNB, Standard Bank, Capitec and Nedbank) have developed relief plans for their customers. Please contact your bank to find out what options are available to you and how they can assist with your business or personal finance needs.