

Call for proposals – funding support for SMMEs affected by riots and unrests in Gauteng and Kwazulu Natal



NEF and Solidarity Fund's Humanitarian Crisis Relief Fund announce joint SMME support programme

The National Empowerment Fund (NEF) and the Solidarity Fund's Humanitarian Crisis Relief Fund (HCRF) which was set up in July 2021 to respond to the humanitarian and medical crisis that arose as a consequence of the protests in KZN and parts of Gauteng, have launched an initiative to support small, medium and micro enterprises affected by the recent riots and unrests in KwaZulu Natal and Gauteng.

The NEF and Solidarity Fund's HCRF have established a **R450 million** funding programme aimed at supporting SMMEs that have been hard hit by the recent riots in KwaZulu Natal and Gauteng.

The initiative, a first between the two organisations, will be a blended loan and a grant portion. "Of the R450 million partnership, R300 million will be a loan portion while the balance will be grant funding.

Funding criteria:

The following criteria must be met by a business to be eligible for the support:

- The business must be located in Gauteng and KwaZulu Natal and must demonstrate that it was affected by the riots and the unrests;
- The business must either be a registered company, close corporation or co-operative;
- The applicant must be a taxpayer in good standing and must provide proof thereof from SARS;
- Demonstrate that the jobs lost during the unrests will be restored or increased within 12 months of funding;
- Where a business is insured, funding can be provided as bridging finance against a cession by the insurance company of the insurance proceeds
- All recipients will be encouraged to have a SASRIA or an equivalent insurance cover going forward.
- The business must demonstrate the need for a grant and the ability to service the loan portion.
- Loans will be made available at 0% interest rate.
- Some of the funding will be made available in the form of a grant.

Application Process:

Applicants can submit submissions to unrest-relief@nefcorp.co.za.

Alternatively, applicants may contact the call centre on 0861 843 633 (0861 THE NEF).

Webinar:

A webinar, which is planned for the 30th September 2021 from 10am to 12 noon, will provide more details on the partnership.

To join the webinar, please email your details to: unrest-relief@nefcorp.co.za

