



Tourism Sector Recovery Window

The Challenge:

The Tourism Sector Recovery Window will have a one stage process, with companies needing to pass a pre-qualification criteria to be eligible for proposal submission. The window will specifically focus on business ideas that address the following:

- Challenging the tourism sector (including hotel and accommodation providers, tour operators, and eco-tourism providers) to re-orientate existing product offers to a new market segment such as domestic and / or regional tourist markets rather than international markets. This could also be combined with the use digital technologies to create new value-added user experiences or integrate specialist SME suppliers into the product offer.

For instance, this could involve: the rehabilitation of leisure and ecotourism facilities and alternative experiences; ensuring the groundwork for providing integrated offers combining lakeshore, cultural, wildlife, protected area, and/or speciality offerings with tourism experiences in neighbouring countries; or the introduction of lower cost hotel management and booking systems for smaller hotel / lodge operators.

- Challenge the tourism sector to improve the quality and range of the product offer, particularly focusing on skills development to support better guest experiences.

This could involve integration between commercial operators and tourism training institutions (both public and private) to support better trained staff for both front and back office operations, food preparation and culinary expertise, etc., the introduction of internship schemes, etc.

- Challenge tourism providers to improve integration of their offer with local communities and businesses to strengthen and deepen supply chains that integrate into new service offerings and / or support sustainable use of natural resources, long-term conservation, and measures to protect/promote biodiversity that also benefit host communities.

The amount of contribution by MICF shall range between USD 200,000 and up to USD 300,000 and the grantee must contribute at least 30% of the total project value.

The projects will be expected to be completed within a maximum 30-month period