Inclusive growth through MSMEs

*International Symposium on the Role of Micro-, Small- and Medium- Enterprises (MSMEs) in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*

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More competitive MSMEs means more inclusive growth

MSMEs make up:

- Up to **95% of firms** worldwide
- On average **60% of employment**
- Around **40% of GDP**

- MSMEs employ vulnerable sections of the workforce: women, youth, poor and marginalised communities
- MSMEs tend to be less productive and pay lower wages
- Increasing productivity and competitiveness of MSMEs is good for jobs, good for wages, especially vulnerable people
ITC projects
Sample
Trade Facilitation

Partners include: UNCTAD, TradeMark East Africa, national governments
1. Empowering Youth in the Gambia
Empowering Youth in the Gambia (2017-2020)

Partners include: Ministry of Trade, Ministry of Youth, GIZ, GTTI
2. SheTrades

Empowering women to trade

Objective: Connecting **3 million women** to markets by 2021

Partners include: national and regional governments, Douwe Egbert, Sucafina, eBay, UPS, Barclays, national and regional governments
3. Ethical Fashion Initiative
Connecting poor communities to global luxury fashion brands

Partners include: Vivienne Westwood, Sindiso Khumalo, MIMCO, Camper, United Arrows, EDUN, Brothers Vellies
Programming for inclusive growth through MSMEs is

**People-centred**
- Meets the needs of the communities we serve
- Designed and implemented with local institutions for sustainability and relevance
- Targets impact

**Product/market-driven**
- Using existing strengths and skills while also identifying opportunities for value-addition and diversification

**In partnership**
- With governments and local institutions
- With market partners
- With experts in diverse fields to add value

Science, technology and innovation are enablers
Thank you

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