

Global SME Ministerial Meeting 2025

22-24 July 2025

Durban, South Africa



Transforming trade. Changing lives.



Why now and why is it important?

- ✓ A new global platform for Ministers responsible for SMEs to share best practices and to learn from each other and discuss key emerging issues
 - ✓ A formal group for countries to work together to enable economic transformation driven by SMEs following a biennial roadmap
- > To strengthen ongoing global efforts in trade-driven SME development
- > To take the political importance of SME development to a new level



Global Audience

- SME Ministers
- SMEs and Start-ups
- Trade Promotion Organizations
- Business Support Organizations
- Innovation Hubs and Accelerators
- Public-Private Sector
- Heads of International Organizations



Global Audience

Dedicated Ministers/Ministries with SME portfolio



Africa

Burkina Faso
Central African Republic
Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Gabonese Republic
Kingdom of Lesotho
Republic of Benin
Republic of Botswana
Republic of Cameroon
Republic of Côte d'Ivoire
Republic of Equatorial Guinea
Republic of Guinea
Republic of Kenya
Republic of Mali
Republic of Mauritius
Republic of Seychelles
Republic of South Africa
Republic of the Congo
Republic of Zambia
Republic of Zimbabwe

Asia and the Pacific

Australia
Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
Malaysia
Republic of Fiji
Republic of India
Republic of Indonesia
Republic of Korea

MENA

Kingdom of Morocco
PDR of Algeria
United Arab Emirates

Europe

Ireland
Kingdom of Belgium
Luxembourg
Principality of Andorra
Republic of Italy
Republic of Malta
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

North America

Canada
United States of America

Latin America and The Caribbean

Commonwealth of Dominica
Dominican Republic
Federative Republic of Brazil
Republic of Suriname
Saint Kitts and Nevis

Eastern Europe

Bosnia and Herzegovina
Montenegro
Romania

47 Ministries/Ministers

having MSMEs/SMEs/Small Business/
Entrepreneurship in their title

Programme at a glance

MINISTERIAL PROGRAMME

-  **22 July:** Meeting of senior officials. TPO organizations hold their global dialogue
-  **23 July:** Official Opening, Presidential lunch, Ministerial Roundtables, and limited parallel high-level public-private track sessions
-  **24 July:** Ministerial Roundtables + high level track sessions + Official Closing

BUSINESS AND INNOVATION SPACE

- Dedicated space for start-ups, high-impact and high-value SMEs (masterclasses, pop-up business clinics, business networking)
- Innovators corner-exhibition of creative green tech solutions
- Trade Promotion Organizations sessions
- ITC SheTrades events
- South Africa Business Showcase

FOCUS AREAS



**Access to
Finance**



**Digital
Transformation**



**Green
Transition**



Expected Outcomes



- ✓ A call to action on priority interventions needed for SME development
- ✓ A biennial roadmap for countries to work together on SME trade-led development
- ✓ Strategic global partnerships for SME-led economic transformation