



Leveraging the contributions of MSMEs to green growth and the circular economy

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SEED Practitioner Labs Policy Prototyping



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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AGI	Association for Ghana Industries
BDS	Business Development Services
CPESDP	Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GHG	Green House Gas
GSEP	Ghana Social Enterprise Policy
INDC	Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
MESTI	Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation
MoBD	Ministry of Business Development
MoTI	Ministry of Trade and Industry
MSMEs	Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises
NBSSI	National Board for Small Scale Industries
NEIP	National Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme
PEF	Private Enterprise Federation
PLPP	Practitioner Labs Policy Prototyping
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

For over 15 years, SEED has been working with eco-inclusive enterprises to scale their contributions to social and environmental development priorities, and to support the development of resilient and inclusive local economies. The enterprises we work with are key actors in driving locally relevant and innovative solutions to climate change, and to reducing poverty.

As these enterprises often work in nascent or informal markets, they must develop innovative revenue models, product designs, distribution methods, and organisational structures to serve the needs of their customers and ensure sustainability of their business model. As such, they often face particular challenges when navigating the policy context in which they work. How can they align to existing programmes that promote poverty reduction, jobs creation, and climate action? How can they access targeted business development support services that help them navigate these challenges?

The SEED Practitioner Labs for Policy Prototyping are designed to address these challenges, bringing together a wide range of stakeholders to co-create solutions. In 2020, the SEED Practitioner Labs for Policy Prototyping will be held in Ghana and in Thailand.

An opportune moment for supporting eco-inclusive enterprises in Ghana

The policy context as it relates to MSMEs in Ghana is in a state of transformation. With a new MSME Policy on the horizon that seeks to align and coordinate efforts to support this stakeholder group, it is an opportune moment to look at the social and environmental contributions of MSMEs to Ghana's development priorities, and how policy solutions can leverage these contributions. Furthermore, as MSME activities in specific sectors – for example in the waste management sector – receive increasing attention, there is opportunity for a coordinated effort to address challenges.

MSMEs make up 90% of businesses in Ghana. They contribute 80% of employment, and contribute about 70% of Ghana's GDP. Supporting MSMEs to grow, create new jobs, and scale their social and environmental impacts has the potential to deliver significant steps towards the transition to a green and inclusive economy.

Eco-inclusive MSMEs are integrated into the local economy and develop innovative business models, products and services that respond to the needs of local communities and integrate often marginalised populations along their value chain as customers, suppliers and employees. They are therefore well placed to ensure that local economies respond to shocks to the economy and to their climate.

COVID-19 shock and green recovery

This year we have seen a significant shock to the economy due to the global COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic has resulted in a large loss of jobs, food and livelihood security, shifts in market demand, and disrupted value chains. Enterprises have faced new and additional challenges, and require different types of support to weather the crisis. Furthermore, they remain important actors to recovery of local industries and economies. By addressing the needs of eco-inclusive enterprises, recovery at a local level can be linked to environmental and social impact and support resilience building for future shocks.

Building resilience to climate change

A changing climate exposes vulnerabilities of local economies to such shocks, and threatens further loss of jobs, livelihoods and increases in poverty. Eco-inclusive enterprises can support resilience building in local economies by providing alternative sources of income, diversifying value chains, and providing products and services that support climate change mitigation and adaptation. They can further leverage innovative business models to ensure that the needs of communities most vulnerable to the effects of climate change are served by the private sector.

The case for partnerships

Addressing questions of supporting MSMEs across sectors requires coordinated efforts from a wide range of stakeholders. By bringing together different perspectives and experiences, the SEED Practitioner Labs for Policy Prototyping provides an opportunity to build partnerships and holistic solutions.



CHAPTER 1

Introduction

1

1. INTRODUCTION

Ghana's transition to a green economy and positioning as a major economic player on the regional and global stage hinges on the development of sustainable local industries that engage in value addition activities and are integrated into local, regional, and international value chains. It also hinges on adaptation and resilience to economic, social, and environmental shocks as a result of a changing climate. Micro, small and medium "eco-inclusive" enterprises in Ghana make an essential contribution to green growth in Ghana, and to building a resilient economy.

What is an eco-inclusive enterprise

The term "eco-inclusive enterprise" refers to enterprises with business models that are at the core 1) ecological i.e. contributing to the mitigation of and/or adaptation to climate change, or implementing broader environmental and social sustainability measures such as using sustainable production methods, contributing to the efficient use of resources, managing waste, or conserving biodiversity; and 2) inclusive i.e. creating local jobs, in particular for often marginalised populations such as youth, women and low-income households, and through integrating these communities into local and global value chains as suppliers, distributors or customers. Eco-inclusive enterprises are major contributors to poverty reduction and inclusive growth, supporting the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) also support the development of resilient local economies. This is particularly pertinent in the context of COVID-19, where these enterprises can be important drivers of a green economic recovery, in which the local economy is further strengthened and prepared to tackle future crises, including those related to climate change.

Particularly in times of crisis, MSMEs face challenges in developing strong and scalable business models that allow them to tap into local, regional, and global markets. This limits the sector's contribution to green growth by creating barriers for the enterprise to reach scale. By exploring and addressing the challenges faced by eco-inclusive MSMEs, together we can unlock opportunities so they can reach their full potential.

This policy landscape paper paints a picture of the enterprises that contribute to green recovery and economic development, and maps the ecosystem that supports them. It aims to:

- Examine the roles of eco-inclusive enterprises in Ghana
- Outline key challenges and barriers faced by eco-inclusive enterprises when growing and scaling their enterprises
- Identify areas where further policy support is needed to support MSMEs in the transition to a green and inclusive transition in Ghana.

This paper serves as an input to the SEED Policy Prototyping Programme, in which stakeholders across sectors co-create policy instruments to build a more enabling ecosystem for eco-inclusive enterprises.

SEED Practitioner Labs for Policy Prototyping

The SEED Practitioner Labs for Policy Prototyping offer an opportunity for key ecosystem stakeholders to contribute to policy agenda setting, improve policy implementation, and make recommendations to improve targeting of policies. By collaborating across stakeholder groups (policy practitioners, MSME support organisations and MSMEs) to develop policy solutions, Lab participants play an important role in shaping the policy landscape of Ghana and creating a supportive environment for MSMEs.





CHAPTER 2

From Global
Climate Action
to National
Commitments

2

2. FROM GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION TO NATIONAL COMMITMENTS

With a population of just under 30 million, Ghana has achieved significant economic growth in the past years, attaining the status of middle-income country in 2007. Agriculture and the use of natural resources such as forest, however, remain important sources of livelihood for around 70% of the population. This makes Ghana vulnerable to the effects of climate change, which often manifest as erratic rainfall patterns, increased temperatures - particularly in the north of the country, and flooding near coastal areas.¹ Data based on a 20-year baseline climate observation shows an increase in sea level by 2.1mm per year over the last 30 years, and a forecasted reduction of cereal crop yields by 7%.²

These climate events threaten livelihoods, infrastructure, and pose risks of food and energy insecurity, particularly for vulnerable populations.³

Curbing global emissions and adapting to changing climate conditions are integral to avoiding, adapting to, and increasing resilience to these risks.

Ghana has developed strong policy frameworks for integrating climate actions into a medium-term development agenda, the Ghana Shared Growth Development Agenda II, and the 2014 National Climate Change Policy.

The National Climate Change policy envisions a “climate-resilient and climate-compatible economy while achieving sustainable development through equitable low carbon economic growth”.⁴

Figure 1: National Commitment to Climate Action



Ghana's commitment to climate action



¹ Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation 2014: Ghana National Climate Change Policy

² Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation 2012: National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

³ Ibid. Ghana's energy sector is reliant on low-carbon hydro power (67%), which is threatened by climate change

⁴ Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation 2014: Ghana National Climate Change Policy

To further address these climate vulnerabilities and outline contributions to the Paris Agreement, Ghana has proposed 31 actions in an Intended Nationally Determined Contribution to the Paris Agreement from which 20 actions relate to climate mitigation and 11 actions relate to climate adaptation. These actions are categorised in seven priority sectors to be implemented over a 10-year period (2020-2030).

Ghana's commitments to climate action are further integrated in the Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies (CPESDP) 2017-2024. The CPESDP has four priorities: to create opportunities for all Ghanaians, to safeguard the natural environment and ensure a resilient built environment, to maintain a stable, united, and safe country, and to build a prosperous country.



Figure 2: Seven Priority Development Sectors with Mitigation and Adaptation Goals



NDC – Mitigation and Adaptation Goals within the 7 Priority Sectors

Sustainable mass transportation	Sustainable energy security	Sustainable forest management	Alternative urban waste	Sustainable land use and food security	Equitable social development	Climate proof infrastructure
Mitigation Goals				Adaptation Goals		
Scale up sustainable mass transportation				Agriculture resilience building in climate vulnerable landscapes		
Scale up renewable energy by 10% by 2030				City wide resilient infrastructure planning		
Promote clean rural households lighting				Early warning and disaster prevention		
Expand adoption of cleaner cooking solutions				Integrated water resources management		
Double energy efficiency improvement in power plants				Managing climate induced health risks		
Double energy efficiency in industrial facilities				Resilience for gender and the vulnerable		
Green Cooling Africa Initiative				Value addition based use of forest resources		
Promote sustainable use of forest resources						
Adopt alternative urban waste management						

Source: Ghana's Intended Nationally Determined Contribution 2015

2.1. The Local Response: Eco-Inclusive Enterprises

MSMEs are integral to translating Ghana's national-level priorities for sustainable development into local action.

Given the localised nature of climate change impacts and vulnerabilities, MSMEs are well positioned to drive climate change adaptation and resilience building, and to contribute to climate change mitigation goals at a local level. As indicated in Figure 3, MSMEs represent both a:

(a) **Significant base** for the uptake of green or climate-smart products and services. This includes MSME uptake of sustainable consumption and production practices;

(b) **Source of market-driven innovation** in the design and distribution of context-relevant and locally sourced climate solutions. Eco-inclusive MSMEs offer market-driven solutions that:

- Deliver change mitigation and adaptation solutions through their products and services; and,
- Strengthen local low-carbon economies and create green (climate-resilient) jobs across value chains, including for marginalised populations – especially women, youth and rural communities – that are most impacted by climate change.

Scaling the contributions of MSMEs to green growth in Ghana can occur through the establishment of new businesses, and through the adoption of new and sustainable practices in existing MSMEs. Therefore, the growth potential in Figure 3 can be realised by either increasing the number of eco-inclusive MSMEs or by encouraging existing MSMEs to adopt sustainable consumption and production practices.



Switch Africa Green-SEED Award Winner 2016 City Waste Recycling recycles waste ranging from e-waste and batteries to sawdust and plastic which are sourced from local industries and waste collectors. City Waste Recycling then generates products such as plastic pellets, circuit boards and biogas (compost) and exports recycled e-waste products, playing a key role in ensuring a waste free community.

Website: <https://cwmcl0.wixsite.com/mysite-1>

Figure 3: Role of MSMEs in Climate Action Globally



Role of MSMEs in Climate Action



Employ between 1 to 100 people on average – including women, youth, rural communities

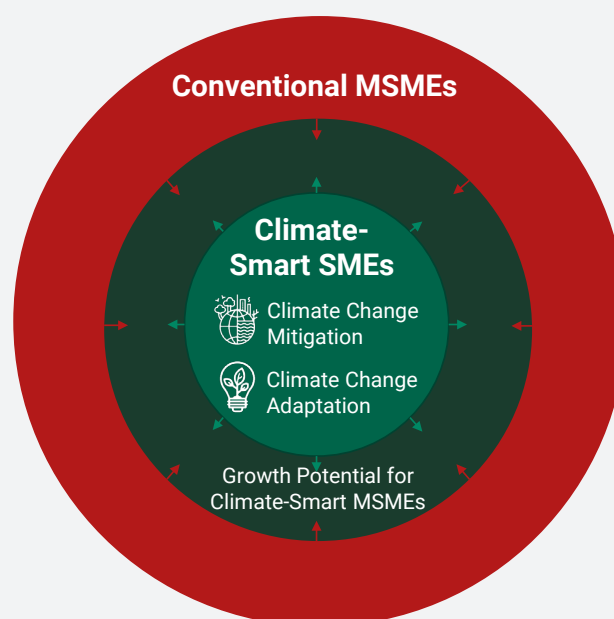


Deliver climate change mitigation and adaptation solutions through their products and services



Strengthen local low-carbon economies and create green (climate-resilient) jobs across their value chains

Climate-Smart SMEs



Source: SEED 2020

2.2. The profile of MSMEs in Ghana

As the economic backbone of countries globally, SMEs account for 95% of registered firms worldwide, 50% of employment and over 35% of GDP in emerging economies.⁵

MSMEs are also significant contributors to the Ghanaian economy. With over 90% of businesses in Ghana categorised as MSMEs, they contribute 80% of employment, and contribute about 70% of Ghana's GDP.⁶

MSMEs should “be acknowledged as the engines of job creation and economic growth”.⁷

- Ministry of Trade and Industry

While MSMEs play an important role in the Ghanaian economy, for many years there has been no national consensus on how to define them. To align definitions and encourage coordination across ministries, in 2019 the Ministry of Trade and Industry provided a definition in collaboration with the National Board for Small Scale Industries (NBSSI) to “allow uniformity in designing support systems and incentives and also monitor progress.”⁸

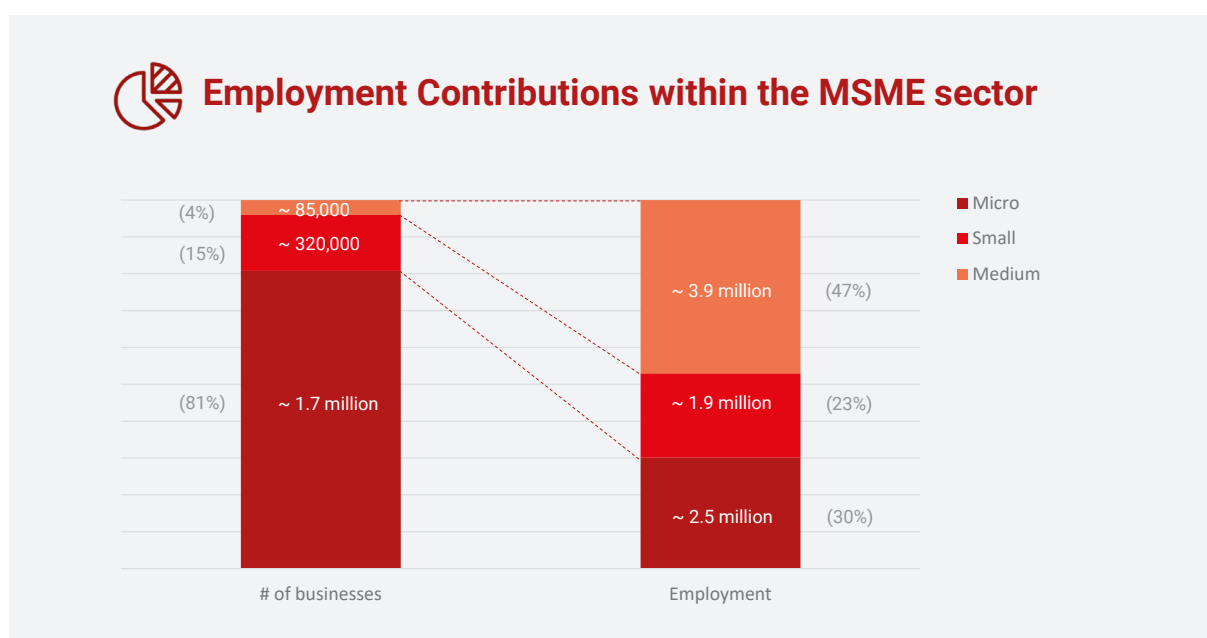
Table 1: Recommendation by the Ministry of Trade and Industry on the definition of MSMEs in Ghana

Enterprise Size	Employment Size (Permanent Staff)	Turnover or Assets
Micro	1-5	<= US\$ 25,000
Small	6-30	US\$ 25,001-1,000,000
Medium	31-100	US\$ 1,000,001-3,000,000

Source: Ministry of Trade and Industry 2019

In total, there are about 2.1 million businesses in Ghana within the MSME sector. Most of these - around 1.7 million - are micro enterprises. Medium-sized enterprises, however, provide 47% of employment in MSMEs, accounting for 3.9 million jobs, on average 46 per enterprise. Micro enterprises create 1-2 jobs per enterprise, providing 30% of MSME employment.⁹

Figure 4: Employment Contributions within the MSME Sector



Sources: Ministry of Trade and Industry 2019

⁵ World Bank Group 2017: *What's Happening in the Missing Middle? Lessons from Financing SMEs*. Retrieved 07/32/2020 from <http://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/707491490878394680/pdf/113906-WhatsHappeningintheMissingMiddleLessonsinSMEFinancing-29-3-2017-14-20-24.pdf>.

⁶ International Trade Centre 2016: *SME Competitiveness in Ghana: Alliances for Action*. ITC, Geneva.

⁷ Ministry of Trade and Industry 2019: *Final Draft: National Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Policy*. MoTI, Ghana.

⁸ Ibid. p.18

⁹ Ibid.



Eco-Inclusive Enterprise Spotlight - Innovation Pathways



Accra, Ghana

SEED Low Carbon Award Winner 2019

Nelplast Eco Ghana Limited

Nelplast collects plastic waste products in urban areas and recycles them into pavement slabs and paving tiles for private and public usage. The enterprise built an innovative recycling process that is capable of recycling almost every type of plastic waste.



Climate Impact

Reducing plastic waste on the streets and in landfills. Nelplast **recycles up to 2 tonnes of plastic a day**, translating into 570 tonnes per annum and therefore realising a great impact on the environment.



Social Impact

Employs waste collectors (youth and women groups) who receive money for segregated and unsegregated plastic waste collected.



Kumasi, Ghana

SEED Low Carbon Award Finalist 2019

AgroCentric

AgroCentric processes agricultural waste into four high value agro-products: Biochar, biofertilizer, dietary supplement for livestock and fish, and biopesticides. The enterprise operates in urban and rural areas and focuses on an inclusive business model.



Climate Impact

Procurement of 900 kg of farm waste which will curb the emission of **about 1 tonne of CO₂ equivalent of methane**. Additional **CO₂ sequestration** due to production of biochar.



Social Impact

Partnering with Farmer Cooperatives to procure farm waste. Additionally, leading round-table discussions to advance in **sensitisation and training programmes**.



CHAPTER 3

Challenges Faced
by MSMEs

3

3. CHALLENGES FACED BY MSMEs

MSMEs face several challenges when starting and scaling their business. The Ministry of Trade and Industry of Ghana has identified numerous challenges facing MSMEs, including the high costs of doing business, lack of MSME integration in regional and global value chains, limited access to finance and to business development support services, difficulties in meeting production standards, and limited export opportunities. The Private Sector Development Strategy I&II, implemented by the Ministry of Trade and Industry, identify additional challenges, including inadequate MSME support infrastructure.

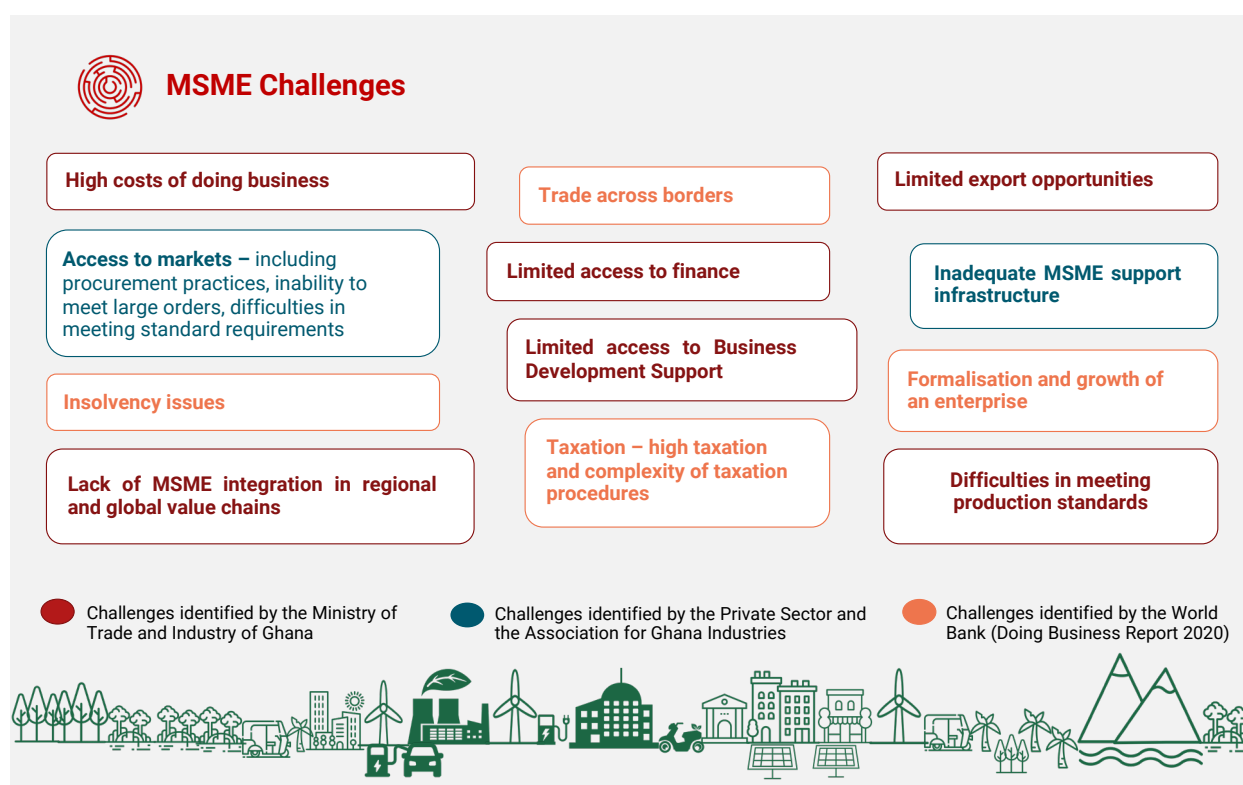
The Association for Ghana Industries (AGI) further specifies challenges MSMEs face when accessing markets, including government procurement practices, an inability to meet large orders, and difficulties meeting standard requirements.

The World Bank 2020 Doing Business Report cites similar challenges. These include difficulties to formalise and grow a business, complying with taxation regulation (e.g. complexity of taxation procedures), trading across borders, and resolving insolvency. Indicators on ease of starting a business rates Ghana at 116 out of 180 countries.¹⁰

The challenges relate to MSMEs in all sectors. Challenges that are found to be more salient for eco-inclusive enterprises have been visualised in Figure 6 by SEED. Among eight determinants of enterprise development, four have been identified as particularly important in the Ghanaian context: access to markets, business development support, business registration and licensing, and access to infrastructure and technology. Applying an eco-inclusive lens to these illuminates some key challenges faced by enterprises that deliver social and environmental – as well as economic – impact.

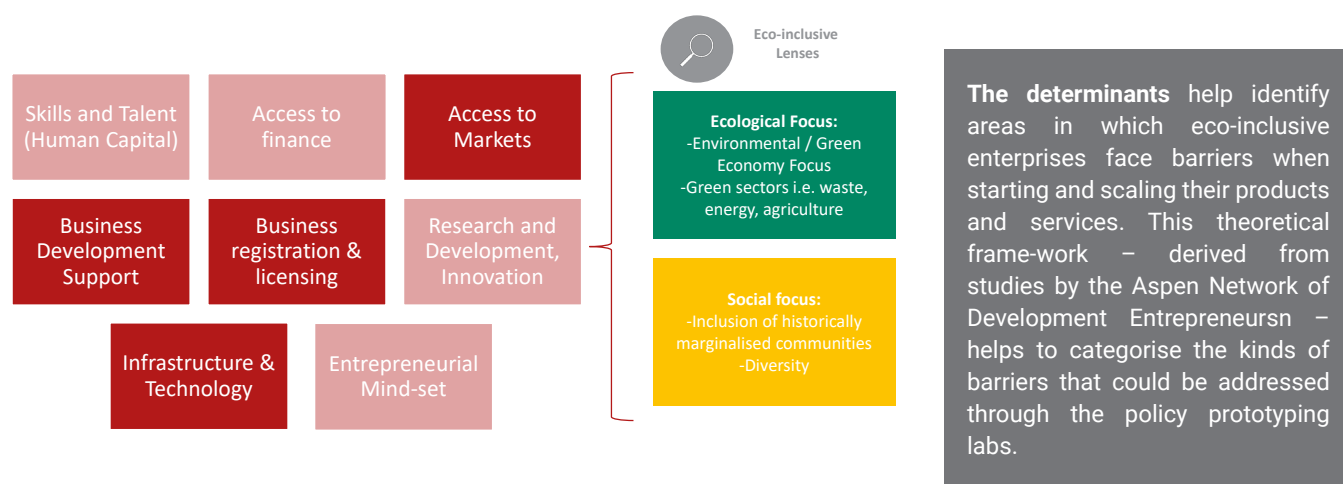
The lack of **market information** or **access to markets** represents one challenge faced by MSMEs. This is particularly important for climate change adaptation enterprises, which must deal with the additional challenges of understanding the demand of a nascent market. Resources to gather information are scarce, affecting the enterprise's ability to keep up with industry developments. This can result in an inability to penetrate markets, which as a result can lead to missed opportunities to tap into government or other relevant contracts.

Figure 5: MSME Challenges



¹⁰ World Bank Group 2020: Doing Business 2020: Economy Profile Ghana. Retrieved 07/23/2020 from <http://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/595681574942119851/pdf/Doing-Business-2020-Comparing-Business-Regulation-in-190-Economies-Economy-Profile-of-Ghana.pdf>

Figure 6: Determinants of Eco-inclusive Enterprise Development



Source: SEED 2020

While access to **Business Development Services (BDS)** in urban areas gains presence, such services are not accessible to many businesses in rural areas. Those areas are not profitable enough to attract most private BDS providers. This leads to rural enterprises missing out on opportunities for knowledge transfer, and information on export opportunities or standards, for example.

Alongside access to Business Development Service is the challenge of BDS services providing a comprehensive and holistic set of support to enterprises. Enterprises require a wide range of support, including **management support, accounting, legal advice, and technical support**. Often, BDS services provided do not adequately cover this wide range of needs.

The Ghanaian **business registration and licensing frameworks** represent a further challenge to eco-inclusive enterprises. Processes to register an enterprise can be are costly, especially to micro and small businesses that

often lack necessary resources and access to information to navigate these processes. Due to this, many enterprises fail to formalise their business. According to the 2016 Regional Spatial Business Report, 59.9 % of persons employed in Ghana are employed in informal establishments which are mainly MSMEs.¹¹

A lack of access to adequate energy, transport, market and telecom **infrastructure** hinders the growth of MSMEs, leading to issues with storage of inventory, distribution, and scaling beyond the enterprise's immediate geography. This affects the development of businesses all over the country but particularly hampers enterprises in rural areas. Physical infrastructure such as roads, water, power, telecommunications or cold rooms are often inadequate or inaccessible to these enterprises. Industries also face the challenges of finding serviced land or business premises. These challenges limit investor attraction on local and international level as growth opportunities are limited for MSMEs.

¹¹ Ghana Statistical Service 2016: 2015 Labour Force Report. Retrieved 07/23/2020 from https://www.statsghana.gov.gh/gssmain/fileUpload/Demography/LFS%20REPORT_final_21-3-17.pdf



CHAPTER 4

Policy Frameworks
for Promoting
MSMEs in Ghana

4

4. POLICY FRAMEWORKS FOR PROMOTING MSMEs IN GHANA

In recent years, the Ghanaian government has been actively addressing the challenges that are hindering the promotion and scaling of enterprises in the MSME sector. Programmes such as one district one factory, or one region one industrial park have been instrumental in addressing challenges of infrastructure, for example. Recently, the development of a MSME policy by the Ministry of Trade and Industry promises further initiatives to address these challenges and promote the sector, guided by a strong policy framework. The promotion and support of micro, small and medium enterprise growth in Ghana has generally been spread across multiple government ministries, departments and agencies. These include the Ministry of Trade and Industry - and associated National Board for Small Scale Industries - and Ministry of Business Development as well as sector-specific bodies such as the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, the Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation, and the Ministry of Finance. As a result, several policy frameworks have been identified as relevant to the support and growth of small and medium enterprises.

The **Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies** (CPESDP) seeks to “create the conditions for the Ghanaian private sector to propel growth and create ample employment opportunities, especially for the youth.”¹² A focus of policy frameworks has therefore been on fostering a business-enabling environment for the private sector as a whole and linking local businesses to regional and global value chains. The creation of decent jobs for an improved livelihood is a cornerstone of this agenda. The **Ministry of Planning** is responsible for the coordination of Ghana’s development goals and the CPESDP.

This agenda is complemented by the **National Entrepreneurship and Innovation Plan** under the **Ministry of Business Development**, with four major components: incubator and accelerator support, a Youth Enterprise Fund, an industrialisation plan, and a business competition and business support programme.

Incubator and Accelerator Support	Skills development and training targeted at young entrepreneurs across various industries
Youth Enterprise Fund	Providing financial support to young scalable businesses that are unable to access funding from financial institutions
Industrialisation Plan	Development of Greenhouse domes for fruits and vegetables farming. Also aims at creating sub-contracting industries and sustainable jobs
Business Competition and Business Support Programme	Early stage business competitions to be selected for both funding and incubator support

This complements the activities of the **National Board for Small Scale Industries** (NBSSI), an agency under the **Ministry of Trade and Industry**, which provides financial and non-financial support to enterprises in the manufacturing and services sector.

¹² Government of Ghana 2017: *The Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies: An Agenda for Jobs: Creating Prosperity and Equal Opportunity for All*. p. XV. Retrieved 07/23/2020 from [https://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/new-ndpc-static1/CACHES/PUBLICATIONS/2018/04/11/Coordinate+Programme-Final+\(November+11,+2017\)+cover.pdf](https://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/new-ndpc-static1/CACHES/PUBLICATIONS/2018/04/11/Coordinate+Programme-Final+(November+11,+2017)+cover.pdf)



4.1. Development of the MSME Policy

Given the multiple policy frameworks and division of responsibility across many governmental bodies, the Ghanaian government under the Ministry of Trade and Industry is currently in the process of adopting a new comprehensive MSME Policy. This policy is expected to align and consolidate all MSME development actions. Initiatives such as the NEIP under the Ministry of Business Development and other Youth Entrepreneurship programmes are expected to be aligned to the MSME policy. At the time of writing, this policy is at the final draft stage to be sent to parliament and presidency for approval. The NBSSI - transitioned to the Enterprise Authority – is intended to be responsible for implementation of the MSME Policy. An inter-ministerial coordination body would convene stakeholders such as the Ministry of Finance, the Private Enterprise Federation, and the Association of Ghana Industries to coordinate the MSME policy.¹³

The MSME policy further identifies climate change and the green economy as a priority strategic sector for the promotion of MSMEs. The adoption and implementation of this policy will therefore unlock opportunities and a mandate to further explore and promote eco-inclusive MSMEs.

4.2. Identification of policy opportunities for promotion of eco-inclusive MSMEs

In this policy climate, there are several opportunities to promote the development of eco-inclusive MSMEs and to leverage the contributions of these stakeholders to job creation, reduction of poverty, and mitigation and adaptation to climate change.

Linking MSME policies with the achievement of Ghana's climate goals. With the identification of climate change and the green economy as a strategic sector in the MSME policy, there is a clear mandate to explore the contributions of MSMEs to these goals and to develop targeted programmes to support sectors contributing to the green economy. This opportunity can link the actions of eco-inclusive MSMEs to achievement of Ghana's climate goals.

Supporting micro- and small- enterprises by encouraging corporate linkages and access to market infrastructure. Programmes that increase access of micro and small enterprises to improvements in warehouse and storage infrastructure, for example, will support linkages between corporate value chains and MSMEs and contribute to an export-driven economy. This can also drive the creation of jobs linked to growing industries that deliver social and environmental as well as economic benefits.

Alleviating key challenges that enterprises face, which are often especially pressing in nascent markets such as the market for climate change adaptation products and services. These solutions may include supporting access to market information, and capacity building that promotes and facilitates formalisation of the sector and ability of enterprises to meet quality standards required for local and export consumer markets.

Understanding the role of eco-inclusive MSMEs in the recovery from Covid-19 shocks, ensuring the transition to a resilient local economy with green growth objectives. Exploring the role of eco-inclusive MSMEs in driving recovery at a local level will be key going forward.

The SEED Practitioner Labs for Policy Prototyping will address these topics among others to together co-create solutions that are targeted to support eco-inclusive MSMEs and leverage their contributions to build a resilient, green and inclusive economy



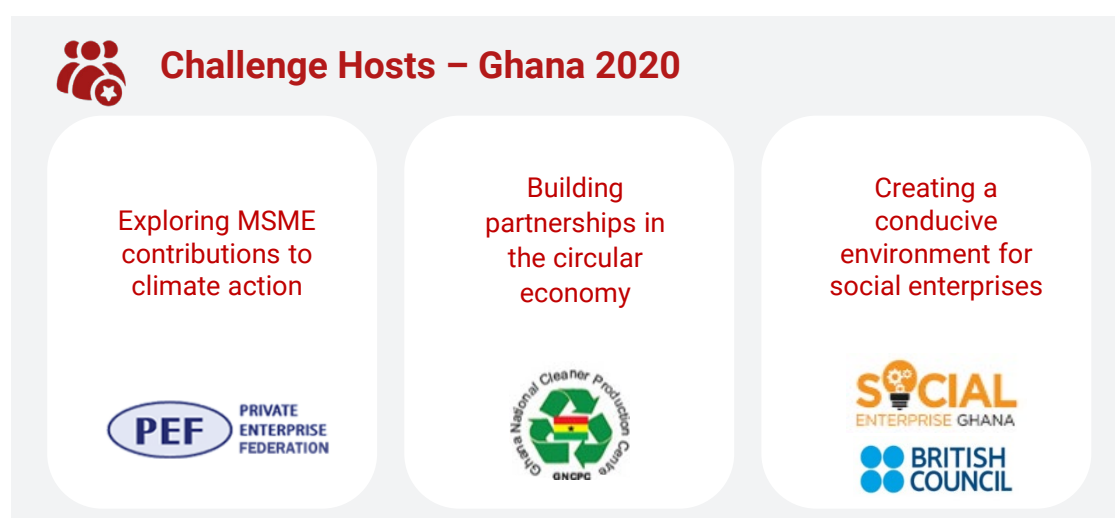
¹³ Ministry of Trade and Industry 2019: Final Draft: National Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Policy. MoTI, Ghana.

5. ENGAGEMENT OF ECOSYSTEM ACTORS

To engage on these opportunities for linking the contributions of eco-inclusive MSMEs to policy priorities, content partners “Challenge Hosts” who are working on these topics will serve as a focal point for each solution development group throughout the multi-step labs process. The Challenge Hosts will co-facilitate group sessions for product development and refinement, and support partnership-building efforts. The Challenge Hosts also play a central role in the initial framing of core challenges to address during the labs, based on their experience working with MSMEs, climate change activities in the private sector, business advocacy, and more.

This year in Ghana, Challenge Hosts will explore the climate change contributions of MSMEs, how link markets in the circular economy, and topics on creating a conducive environment for social enterprises. Challenge Hosts drive the prototyping process by (1) outlining the context, (2) identifying core challenges and sub-challenges, (3) identifying key stakeholders, and (4) framing opportunities for action.

Figure 7: Challenge Hosts – Ghana 2020



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