



Micro, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises Day

Unlocking the potential of MSMEs to contribute to the SDGs

Thursday 27 June 2019, 10:00 – 17:00

Venue: Economic and Social Council Chamber, United Nations Headquarters, New York

9am — 10am	Arrival and registration
10am — 11am	<p>High-level opening session with keynote speeches from</p> <p>H.E. Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés, President of the 73rd Session of the UN General Assembly (TBC)</p> <p>H.E. Ms. Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations (TBC)</p> <p>H.E. Ambassador Inga Rhonda King, President of the Economic and Social Council</p> <p>H.E. Ms. Sahar Nasr, Minister of Investment and International Cooperation, Egypt</p> <p>H.E. Ambassador Martín García Moritán, Permanent Representative of Argentina to the UN</p> <p>H.E. Ambassador Cho Tae-yul, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the UN</p> <p>Ms. Arancha González, Executive Director, International Trade Centre (video message)</p> <p>Mr. Ahmed Osman, President of International Council for Small Business</p> <p>Mr. Alexander Trepelkov, Officer-in-Charge, Division for Sustainable Development Goals, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs</p> <p>Mr. Robert Skinner, Director, United Nations Office for Partnerships</p> <p>Including the OFFICIAL REPORT LAUNCHES for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ITC's 2019 SME Competitiveness Outlook and - ICSB's Global MSMEs Report <p><i>Moderated by Dr. Ayman El Tarabishy, ICSB Executive Director and Professor at the George Washington University</i></p>
11am — 12pm	<p>Investing in Micro, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises</p> <p>Access to finance is often cited as the biggest impediment to MSME growth. How should this “investment gap” be addressed? How can the financial inclusion of MSMEs also help achieve the SDGs?</p> <p>Panellists</p> <p>Mr Anton Said, Chief of Export Strategy, ITC</p> <p>Mr Dustin Shay, Senior Director of Partnerships, Village Capital</p>

Ms Lala Faiz, Direct of Invest Initiative, USAID
Mr Andrew Wilson, Permanent Observer of the International Chamber of Commerce to the UN
Mr Fabrizio Cometto, Investment Specialist, UNCDF

Moderated by Riefqah Jappie, ITC Representative to the UN, New York

12pm — 1pm

Capacity building, Knowledge, Education, and Innovation

How can learning tools for MSMEs be used to improve impact? How can education be used to help more people harness the power of MSMEs for themselves and for their wider communities?

Panellists

Dr. Joel Bloom, President of NJIT University, USA
Ambassador Oh Joon, Former President of ECOSOC and Former Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the UN
Mrs. Sanaa Abouzaid, MENA Regional Corporate Governance Officer, International Finance Corporation
Dr. Isabelle Benainou, Dean of the Desautles Faculty of Management, McGill University
Ms. Holly Wade, Director of Research and Policy Analysis, National Federation of Independent Business
Mrs. Sandrine Kergroach, Senior Economist, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship

Moderated by Dr. Chantal Line Carpentier, Chief, UNCTAD Office, New York

1pm — 2pm

Lunch break

2pm — 3pm

Around the World with Entrepreneurs' Experiences – The Role of the Private Sector in the SDGs

What makes a successful entrepreneur? What are the challenges entrepreneurs are faced with? This session of informative storytelling will answer these questions and more.

Canada: Methanex Corporation, Mr. John Floren
Egypt: Tatweer Misr, Dr. Ahmed Shalaby
Japan: Garage Sumida, Mr. Keiichi Hamano
USA: Winslow Sargeant ICSB
S. Korea: P&J Medesthetics Corp, Ms. Mimi Cho
Nigeria: Director, Rhabe Ventures Limited, Ms. Abimbola Alawode
Global - Entrepreneur Organization – Ms. Bubu Andres (Rosemary)

Moderated by Andrew Wilson, Permanent Observer to the UN, International Chamber of Commerce

3pm — 4pm

MSMEs and the Future of Work

The digital age is changing how we define “work”. What role do MSMEs have in addressing the challenges, and taking advantage of the opportunities, of this changing working landscape?

Panellists

Ms. Ashia Sheikh, Chief Strategy and Partnerships Officer, Nest.Org
Dr. Alex DeNoble, Professor, San Diego State University
Mr. Farid Hegazy, Senior Policy Advisor, ILO
Mr. Alberto Gómez-Obregón, Director of Portfolio, Acumen Investing

Mrs. Shoroke Zedan, TVET Egypt
Dr. Jeffrey Cornwall, Professor, Belmont University

Moderated by Saras Jagwanth, Division for Sustainable Development Goals, DESA

4pm — 5pm

Building Ecosystems and Policies to support MSMEs

What kind of environment best fosters innovation and entrepreneurship? Which institutions are necessary and how should they adapt to help MSMEs grow? What policies work best to support an MSME-friendly environment?

Panellists

Mr. Layhy Chhea, Deputy Director-General, Cambodia's Ministry of Industry SME Department

Ms. Barbara Magnoni, President, EA Consultants and Adjunct Associate Professor of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University

Mr. Matthew Guttenag, Director of Research and Impact, Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs

Dr Kevin Braithwaite, Advisor, Global Cleantech Innovation Programme (GCIP) and VP, Network for Global Innovation (NGIN) and Public Affairs, Columbia University

Mr. Soulamane Konkobo, Humphrey Fellow, Boston University, Burkina Business Incubator

Moderated by Paul Maseli, Director and Representative of UNIDO to the UN and other International Organizations

5pm — 5:30pm

Closing

Speakers

H.E. Ambassador Martín García Moritán, Permanent Representative of Argentina to the UN

Mr. Anton Said, Chief of Export Strategy, ITC

Mr. Ahmed Osman, President, ICSB

Moderated by Dr. Ayman El Tarabishy, ICSB Executive Director and Professor at the George Washington University

#MSMEDay19

This event is proudly co-organised by the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations, the International Trade Centre, the UN Department for Economic and Social Affairs and the International Council for Small Business.