**SME Policy and Institutional Framework for East African Countries**

**Organizers: National Institute for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (ni-msme)**

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Submitted by



National Institute for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (**ni-msme**)

 (An Organisation of Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Govt. of India)

 (ISO 9001 – 2015 Organization)

## Yousufguda, Hyderabad - 500 045

**Context:**

The SMEs have been accepted as the engine of economic growth and for promoting equitable development. The labour intensity of the SME sector is much higher than that of the large enterprises. The SMEs constitute over 90% of total enterprises in most of the developing economies and are credited with generating the highest rates of employment growth and account for a major share of industrial production and exports. The SMEs play a vital role in the overall growth of industrial economy of the country. With its agility and dynamism, the sector has shown admirable innovativeness and adaptability to survive the economic downturn and recession and have lots of opportunities to grow in the future.

The “think small first principle” requires public authorities to consider SMEs’ interestsearly on in the policy-making process. A comprehensive and coherent policy and institutionalframework is therefore necessary to ensure that laws and regulations are SME-friendly andthat public initiatives address the needs of SMEs effectively. Three main dimensions to assess SME policy process are the institutional framework, the adoption oflegislative simplification and regulatory impact analysis tools for SMEsand the existence ofparticipatory platforms for public-private consultations on SME-related topics

SMEs are the most vulnerable Institutions in COVID 19 Period. This is because of their size, scale of operation, limited financial managerial resources. They are not able to cope with difficulties that are forced on them. It is difficult even in normal times for them to survive, but they don’t have the capacity to deal with something so unexpected.

A recent rapid survey of businesses by the Economic Policy Research Centre (EPRC) in East Africa reveals that three-quarters of the SMEs have laid off employees due to the risks presented by COVID-19 and subsequent containment measures. Indeed, the results suggest that lockdown measures have reduced business activity by more than half. In terms of sectors, we find that businesses in agriculture have experienced the largest constraints in access to both inputs and markets for outputs due to control measures such as transport restrictions, quarantine, social distancing, and bans on weekly markets.

In this back drop this training provides the much needed impetus to the SME sector in East Africa Region by disseminating the policy initiatives taken up by the GOI during the COVID period to augment the suffering Sector.

**Aim:**

To exhibit the coherent SME policies and institutional Framework of Government of India especially the recent policy measures amidst COVID 19 period for the sustenance of the sector to the MSMEs of East African nations.

**Objectives:**

* To understand the importance of SME Policy and Institutional Framework
* To discuss on various key issues related to SME policy
* To understand the Indian MSME policy, Institutional framework and recent announcements.
* To discuss on Ease of doing business in India

**Contents**

* Sharing of SME Policies of Different Nations
* Discussion on Institutional frameworks of Different countries
* Ease of Doing Business and Initiatives by different countries
* Indian MSME Policy & Flagship programs / Schemes
* Institutional support in India to MSMEs and Entrepreneurs (KVIC, NSIC, DC-MSME, NI-MSME, State Govt. Initiatives )
* Role of Industry Associations
* MSME policies for Cluster development
* Women and MSMEs
* MSMEs in rural framework
* Recent policy initiatives in COVID 19 period

**Target Audience:**

Government officials of SME Department, Policy makers, SME Entrepreneurs of East African Nations

**Program Faculty:**

Experts from **ni-msme**, Industry and subject domain experts

**Program Director:**

Dr.K.Visweswara Reddy, Faculty Member, School of Enterprise management, National Institute for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises **(ni-msme**)

**Program Duration and Time:**

20th September -24th September 2021. One week (Two hours per day and total of 10 Hours)

Time: 13:00 Hrs. -17.00 Hrs. IST (+5.30Hrs GST)