



MSME access to credit:

Exploring solutions which fill
the financing gap



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Formal MSME Financing Gap



US\$ 2.38 trillion

EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

US\$ 336 billion

SOUTH ASIA



US\$ 1.3 trillion

WOMEN MSME FINANCE GAP
IN EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

US\$ 27 billion

WOMEN MSME FINANCE GAP
IN SOUTH ASIA

Key Barriers

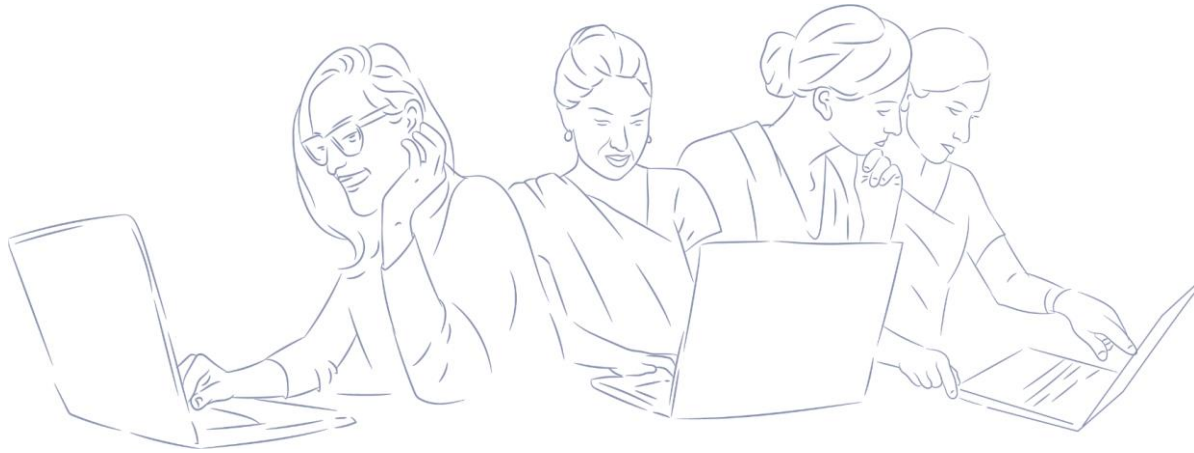
- Ability to meet collateral requirements
- Ability to meet customer due-diligence and KYC requirements
- Bankability (record keeping and accounting records)
- Financial and digital literacy

Additional and specific to women entrepreneurs

- Socio-cultural norms
- Control over device ownership in digital financial services
- Mobility constraints

Bridging the financing gap boosts GDP and creates economic and social gains

Access to finance: Deep Dives



Fiji



- Lean data research of randomized SPBD clients.
- Findings noted the need for more flexible and diversified loan products including longer loan terms, larger loan sizes and longer grace periods particularly due to COVID-19.
- Findings noted the importance of specialization of credit products i.e. business, home improvement, education, etc.
- Wraparound services to support business start-up, planning and expansion.

Bangladesh



- 150 women entrepreneurs surveyed
- Only 8% took a loan from a formal financial institution and only 19% had a valid trade license
- Key barriers include: client relations, supply chain management, technology use, online harassment and lack of family support/approval

ESCAP and UNCDF have partnered to support FinTechs and traditional financial service providers to develop, test and scale solutions for MSMEs.



SKYEYE LTD: Samoa's first payment gateway, integrating mobile money payment services, bank partners' and SkyEye's Maua online marketplace



AELOI: Digital token system for public transport electric vehicles and access to digital loans

SPARROW PAY: Financial and digital literacy training, and a digital marketplace linked with a bulk payment system



BANHJI FINTECH: SME finance platform, linked with digital and financial literacy training, improving access to working capital loans

SHE INVESTMENTS: First ever mobile bookkeeping app in Cambodia supporting women to maintain the financial records needed to access loans



IFARMER: Digital agriculture lending platform linking urban farm investors to rural women farmers, and enhanced with training & financial management support

ROMONI SERVICES LIMITED: Aggregator platform for women entrepreneurs working in the creative industries, connecting women entrepreneurs with training, customers, other businesses, & financial services

Thank You!

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