



ENTREPRENEURS ARE WORKING TO END POVERTY IN DEVELOPING ECONOMIES. HERE'S HOW ANDE HELPS:

SGBS: DRIVING PROSPERITY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Small and growing businesses (SGBs) are a powerful, yet underleveraged tool in addressing social and environmental challenges. The Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs (ANDE) and its members share the view that targeted support for SGBs is crucial to unlocking sustainable economic growth. SGBs represent locally-driven solutions that, in the right environment, are self-sustaining and create jobs that help people climb – and stay – out of poverty. These entrepreneurs are also often working to create a world that is cleaner, healthier, and more inclusive and equitable for all.

Successfully supporting SGBs requires cultivating entrepreneurial ecosystems throughout developing economies. ANDE is committed to building a thriving network of people and organizations and supporting them through policy and program initiatives.

A DIVERSE GLOBAL NETWORK

Launched in 2009 with 34 members, ANDE now comprises nearly 300 active members working in more than 150 countries, which in turn support nearly 200,000 SGBs each year. ANDE membership reflects the full ecosystem that supports SGBs in developing economies, including banks, capacity development providers, corporations, development finance institutions, donor agencies, foundations, investors, and researchers.



ANDE'S UNIQUE VALUE

The breadth and depth of the ANDE network allow us to connect local experts with decision makers through our eight regional chapters and global headquarters in Washington, DC. Chapters focus on building strong regional connections and fostering collaborative initiatives to improve national business environments. Our global staff advocates for the sector with the philanthropic and investor communities. We also design and implement research projects, training workshops, and other programming to push the sector forward and connect our members across geographic and subject areas. Diverse experts across the ANDE network learn from one other in a setting that values both innovation and implementation.

OUR PROGRAM AREAS INCLUDE:

Advocacy and education • Funding opportunities and resources • Knowledge sharing and networking
Metrics and evaluation • Research • Training and talent development

ANDE AND THE GLOBAL GOALS

After more than a decade, ANDE is larger, more credible, and better resourced than ever before. ANDE drives the conversation and pushes for the importance of SGBs in contributing to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs or global goals). While SGBs are relevant to all the

global goals, ANDE believes that SGBs can make a particularly significant contribution to addressing three target areas. Working alongside our members, ANDE will catalyze new approaches and scale existing efforts of intermediaries that are fostering SGBs that embrace climate and environmental action, gender equality, and decent work and economic growth.

URGENT ISSUES



Gender equality via SGBs:

If half of the world's population is left behind, significant progress on the SDGs is impossible. Alongside other stakeholders, the SGB sector has an important role to play in achieving SDG 5, which calls for achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls.



Entrepreneurial approaches to climate and environmental action:

SGBs will inevitably have to confront climate and environmental changes that affect their customers, operations, and supply chains, and must therefore play a proactive role in promoting environmental activism.



SGBs as drivers of decent work and economic growth:

SGBs, as net job creators in developing economies, are critical to the achievement of SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth. The SGB sector must consider the effects of new technology and emerging trends like the gig economy on the modern workforce.

AN ECOSYSTEM APPROACH

ANDE continues to embrace an ecosystem approach to our work—seeking to catalyze coordinated efforts to build entrepreneurial ecosystems through our central pillars while addressing ongoing SGB sector challenges.

CENTRAL PILLARS

- **Making the case for SGBs:** ANDE engages with donors and policymakers to help them understand the importance and needs of SGBs.
- **Increasing the effectiveness of SGB support organizations:** Through research, training, and network connections, ANDE helps entrepreneur support organizations work more effectively.
- **Cultivating entrepreneurial ecosystems:** Through our eight regional chapters, ANDE serves as a hub for the development of strong SGB support ecosystems.

SGB SECTOR CHALLENGES

- **Talent development:** Recruiting, developing, and retaining talent is a critical issue for SGBs. ANDE's programming helps our members address these human capital development challenges.
- **SGB finance and impact investing:** ANDE convenes and supports our members to increase the supply of entrepreneur-friendly impact capital.
- **Impact management and measurement:** ANDE helps members better measure their impact to better understand how they are advancing social, economic, and environmental progress.



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