

Small Manufacturers in Africa Face Critical Challenges

Johannesburg, South Africa – 26 September 2024: Small manufacturers across Africa are grappling with a series of critical challenges that hinder their growth and sustainability. These challenges, which span financial, infrastructural, regulatory, and competitive domains, are crucial to address to support the continent's burgeoning manufacturing sector.

Key Challenges Identified:

1. **Access to Finance:** Small manufacturers struggle to secure affordable credit and investment, limiting their ability to expand and innovate.
2. **Infrastructure Gaps:** Inconsistent power supply and inadequate transportation networks pose significant operational difficulties.
3. **Supply Chain Issues:** The difficulty in sourcing raw materials and reliable suppliers affects production schedules and costs.
4. **Regulatory and Compliance Barriers:** Navigating complex and sometimes inconsistent regulatory environments increases the burden on small manufacturers.
5. **Market Access:** Limited opportunities to reach broader markets, both locally and internationally, restrict the growth potential of small manufacturers.
6. **Skilled Labor Shortages:** There is a significant gap in finding and retaining skilled workers and technicians.
7. **Technological Constraints:** Limited access to modern manufacturing technologies and innovation hinders competitiveness.
8. **Competition from Imports:** The sector faces intense competition from cheaper, often subsidised imports, affecting local manufacturing viability.

Addressing these challenges is vital for the growth of small manufacturers in Africa, as they play a crucial role in job creation and economic development. Stakeholders, including governments, financial institutions, and international partners, must collaborate to create an enabling environment for these businesses to thrive.

The upcoming [Manufacturing Indaba](#) taking place from the 22 – 23 October 2024, to be hosted in Johannesburg, presents an excellent opportunity for small manufacturers to engage with industry experts, policymakers, and potential investors, gaining insights and resources to overcome these challenges. Small manufacturers are invited to participate in this event to network, learn, and explore new opportunities for growth.

ENDS

FOR MEDIA ENQUIRIES

Issued by: Siyenza Management

For media enquiries contact:

Qondakuhle Dwangu on q@siyenzaevents.co.za or 011 463-9184 / 064 118 1232

Website : <https://manufacturingindaba.co.za>

Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/manufacturingindaba/>

LinkedIn : <https://www.linkedin.com/company/manufacturing-indaba>

Twitter : <https://twitter.com/IndabaManufact>

