

United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA)

Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs)

The main objective of the chapter is to promote **mechanisms that allow SMEs** in the region to **benefit from the Agreement and participate in the trade and investment regional flows.**

General provisions:

- **Incorporation of Memorandums of Understanding to broaden the scope of cooperation public policies in order to increase SMEs' opportunities.**
- Creation of **access means to credit, capital, including cooperation mechanisms to increase SMEs' export capacity.**
- **Cooperation in support infrastructure for SMEs,** including start-ups, accelerators, and **export assistance centers.**
- Creation of **international networks to share best practices and promote SMEs participation** in international trade.
- **Inclusion of an information exchange mechanism** at government level regarding best practices of **access to credit and capital, as well as the participation of government purchases** covered by the agreement.
- Each country will establish a **website** with information on **customs regulations, intellectual property, financing programs, labor regulations, tax information, and FDI regulations,** among others, in order to help SMEs adapt to **changing market conditions.**
- Promote SMEs owned by **women, indigenous people and youth, as well as start-ups, and agricultural and rural SMEs.**
- Creation of the **Committee on SMEs issues** with representatives of each country. Some of the Committee's tasks are:
 - Promote the **participation of SMEs in digital trade** and in **regional and global supply chains.**
 - Develop and promote **seminars, workshops, webinars and other activities** to inform SMEs of the benefits available to them under the Agreement.
 - Facilitate **information exchange** on entrepreneurship **for under-represented groups.**
 - Convene a **Trilateral SME Dialogue** that includes the **private sector, employees, non-governmental organizations, academic experts** and under-represented groups, **such as women, indigenous people and youth.**