



International Workshop

on

Growth and Efficiency of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in India

IIT Madras in collaboration with Musashi University (Tokyo), Centre for Technology, Innovation and Economic Research (CTIER) and WRI India

Date: February 17, 2024

Venue: ICSR Hall 3, IIT Madras

Time: 9:30-18:00

Organizers: IIT Madras and Musashi University

Coordinators: Prof. Subash Sasidharan (subash@iitm.ac.in)

Prof. Yuko Nikaido (nikaido@cc.musashi.ac.jp)

Cosponsors: Centre for Technology, Innovation and Economic Research (CTIER)
WRI India

Objective:

Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) are the backbone of India's socio-economic development, contributing roughly 30% of the nation's GDP, 45% of its manufacturing output, and employment for over 110 million people. However, despite preferential government policies, many MSMEs remain confined to the informal sector, hindering their growth potential. To propel India's inclusive growth, transitioning MSMEs from the informal to formal sector is crucial.

It is against this backdrop that we propose a one-day international workshop on February 17, 2024, at the IIT Madras campus. This workshop aims to create a dynamic platform for debate, critical analysis, and knowledge sharing on Indian MSMEs, focusing on key areas like finance, performance, innovation, and digitalization. We bring together students, scholars, policymakers, industry practitioners, representatives from multilateral institutions, and anyone with a keen interest in economic research.

This unique gathering will offer participants from Japan and India valuable insights into analyzing the growth and efficiency of MSMEs, fostering cross-cultural knowledge exchange between academics and practitioners, and sparking the generation of innovative solutions for this vital sector.



List of the participants:

✧ **Japan side**

- Hon'ble Mr. Masayuki Taga (Consul General of Japan in Chennai)
- Prof. Etsuro Ishigami (Researcher, RIEB, Kobe University; Emeritus Professor, Fukuoka University) **[online]**
- Mr. Masami Shimizu (Research Scholar, Kyoto University)
- Prof. Yuko Nikaido (Musashi University)
- Dr. Eri Ikeda (Assistant Professor, IIT Delhi)

✧ **India side**

- Mr. C K Mohan, President, Tamil Nadu Small & Tiny Industries Association (TANSTIA)
- Prof. M. Vijayabaskar (Madras Institute of Development Studies (MIDS); Member, State Planning Commission, Government of Tamil Nadu,)
- Prof. Biswanath Goldar (Institute of Economic Growth) **[online]**
- Prof. Subash S. (Indian Institute of Technology Madras)
- Prof. Keshab Das (Dean, School of Social, Financial & Human Sciences, KIT University)
- Prof. P L Beena (Professor, Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram)
- Prof. Thillai Rajan A. (Professor, Department of Management Studies, IIT Madras)
- Dr. Radeef Chundakkadan (Assistant Professor, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay)
- Dr. Ananya Chakraborty (Senior Research Specialist, Climate Resilience Practice, WRI India)
- Ms Sharon Buteau, Executive Director, LEAD at KREA University, Chennai
- Ms Chaitanya Lekharaju, Centre for Technology, Innovation and Economic Research (CTIER)
- Mr Nishok P J, Centre for Technology, Innovation and Economic Research (CTIER)
- Ms. Jayati Chatterjee (Research Scholar, HSS, IIT Madras)
- Mr. Prabin Chauhan Chhetri (Research Scholar, Sikkim University)
- Mr. Supratheesh T (Senior Program Associate, Climate, WRI India)
- Ms. Priyal Shah (Senior Program Associate, Climate, WRI India)



Program:

9:30 Registration

9:45-10:45 Inaugural session

Chair: Prof. Subash S.

Welcome address (India side): **Prof. Rajesh Kumar** (Head, Department of HSS, IIT Madras)

Welcome address (Japan side): **Hon'ble Mr. Masayuki Taga** (Consul General of Japan in Chennai)

Inaugural speech: **Mr. C K Mohan** (President, TANSTIA)

Keynote speech: **Prof. M. Vijayabaskar** (Member, State Planning Commission, the Government of Tamil Nadu & Madras Institute of Development Studies)

Vote of Thanks

10:45-11:00 High Tea

11:00-13:00 Session 1: Growth and performance

Chair: Prof. Thillai Rajan, IIT Madras

* Biswanath Goldar. "Impact of cyclones on the economic performance of Industrial SMEs in India's coastal states." (Zoom)

*Etsuro Ishigami. "We are small, but no construction work proceeds without us: MSMEs in India's Iron and Steel Industry" (Zoom)

*Keshab Das. "MSMEs & Clusters in globalizing India: Concerns & Possibilities."

*Masami Shimizu. "SMEs in Japan and India: How do they survive and grow?: A comparative understanding based on case studies for machinery production."

[note] *, ** indicate the duration of presentation for 20 minutes and for 15 minutes respectively. After the presentation, 5-10 minutes discussion.

13:00-14:00 Lunch @ Eden Faculty Lounge



14:00-15:20 Session2: Women-led enterprises

Chair: Prof. Eri Ikeda, IIT Delhi

*P. L. Beena “Women Owned Enterprises in Kerala and its Scalability.”

**Yuko Nikaido. “Female entrepreneurship, caste and competitiveness: Evidence from a laboratory experiment in South India”

**Prabin Chetri. “Juggling Priorities: The Gender Conundrum in Small Firm Performance.”

15:20-15:35 Tea/Coffee Break

15:35-16:50 Session3: Access to finance

Chair: Prof Keshab Das, KIT University

**Radeef Chundakkadan. “SME stock market and access to finance.”

**Subash S. “Access to Finance and Spatial Pattern of Small Firms: Evidence from India”

**Jayati Chatterjee. “Women led firms, technology adoption and access to finance in MSMEs.”

16:50-17:50 Panel Discussion by WRI India:

Indian MSMEs in a Changing Climate: Resilience and Just Transition

Chair: Ms Sharon Buteau, KREA University, Chennai

* Mr Supratheesh T and Ms Priyal Shah “Fostering RISE - Resilient, Inclusive, and Sustainable Enterprises (MSMEs) through capacity-building of business owners and re-skilling/up-skilling of the workforce. Examples from Automotive Component manufacturing MSMEs in Tamil Nadu and Textile MSMEs in Tamil Nadu and Gujarat.

*Dr Ananya Chakraborty “Gendered pathways for Just Transition in Indian MSMEs”



17:50 Closing remarks: Subash/Yuko