



**competition commission**  
south africa

**Media Statement**

**For Immediate Release**

**15 October 2021**

**THE COMMISSION TO ROLLOUT A SURVEY INTO THE STRATEGIES ADOPTED BY WOMEN IN BUSINESS TO OVERCOME BARRIERS TO ENTRY AND PARTICIPATION IN BUSINESS**

On 15 October 2021, the Competition Commission of South Africa (Commission) will roll out a survey on “***Strategies Adopted by Women in Business to Overcome Barriers to Entry & Participation in Business***”. The survey forms part of a study currently undertaken by the Commission to determine the most appropriate competition policy interventions required to alleviate barriers that women face in business and further reduce gender inequality in markets. Entrepreneurship is considered as a key driver for economic development and a potential pathway out of poverty. However, there continues to be a wide gender gap in the economy, with women entrepreneurs facing challenges in starting up, entering and growing their businesses in several industries.

Through the survey, the Commission is exploring the following 5 (five) themes for the entry and participation of women in entrepreneurship; (i) access to business knowledge, education and training programmes; (ii) access to finance for new business start-up or expansion, (iii) access to (profitable) markets; (iv) compliance requirements, bureaucracy and administration; and (iv) access to women networks. The Commission will also be exploring to what extent social factors such as safety, security and domestic responsibilities affect women entrepreneurs.

The survey will be helpful in assisting the Commission understand the strategies employed by women entrepreneurs to overcome these barriers. The results of the survey will assist the Commission to determine the intervention required to promote inclusivity and participation of women in the economy, particularly in business.

Women entrepreneurs across the different industries and all provinces in South Africa are invited to participate in the survey.

Direct all enquiries to Ms Karabo Motaung on [Karabom@compcom.co.za](mailto:Karabom@compcom.co.za)

**[ENDS]**

**Issued by:**

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