



LESOTHO

MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING PRESS STATEMENT

From November to December 2023, the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning and the Ministry of Trade in partnership with Advision will carry out MSME (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise) Finscope survey data collection, in Lesotho. This is a joint project co-financed by the **SADC – EU funded Support to Investment and Business Environment (SIBE) project and the World Bank funded Competitiveness and Financial Inclusion (CAFI) project** to the tune of M8million Maloti.

The FinScope MSME Survey is a research tool used to assess financial access in a country and to identify the constraints that prevent financial service providers from reaching the financially under- and un-served MSME owners. The overall objective of the survey is to assess how MSME owners started; their operations, how they grow their businesses and how they manage their businesses' financial interests. The survey will provide insights into MSME owners' attitudes and perceptions regarding financial products and services. FinScope MSME Lesotho involves a range of stakeholders engaging in a comprehensive consultation process, thereby enriching the survey.

FinScope findings are valuable for:

- Policy makers in developing policies aimed at improving the functioning of financial markets.
- Reviewing of current policies aimed at enhancing financial inclusion to assess their effectiveness.
- Private service providers to design product strategies around the segmentation and trends highlighted by the data; and
- Donors and non-governmental agencies who wish to support increased financial inclusion to specific regions or population groups.

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