

Photo: Pedro Costa/UNDP



HIGHLIGHTS

The Commission believes that any approach to private sector development—and the policy and action recommendations that accompany it—should be grounded in the realization that the savings, investment and innovation that lead to development are undertaken largely by private individuals, corporations and communities.

The private sector can alleviate poverty by contributing to economic growth, job creation and poor people's incomes. It can also empower poor people by providing a broad range of products and services at lower prices.

Small and medium enterprises can be engines of job creation—seedbeds for innovation and entrepreneurship. But in many poor countries, small and medium enterprises are marginal in the domestic ecosystem. Many operate outside the formal legal system, contributing to widespread informality and low productivity. They lack access to financing and long-term capital, the base that companies are built on.

The Commission believes that the primary responsibility for achieving growth and equitable development lies with developing countries. This