

This project is a study into the legal environment that exists in the country in so far as it affects domestic investment in Kenya. It shall critically analyze institutional factors that create an investor friendly environment for the domestic investor and more particularly the female Small and Medium Sized Tracer'. The main thrust of the project shall originate from a review of legal instruments affecting the conduct of business in Kenya. This study shall seek to explore the legal and institutional environment that constricts the growth of the woman SME investor in Kenya and suggests interventions for addressing such impediments to increase SME access to the domestic and international markets. The main focus shall be on the institutional and legal environment for setting up business in Kenya and shall thereafter be followed by suggestions on how best to address constraints faced by SMEs in the system. The study shall cover two regulatory and administrative areas: The General legal framework for domestic investment (including business entry and exit as it affects the average woman owned SME) and business entry licensing, . The end result of the study shall seek to create a clear picture of what multiple legal and administrative barriers the typical woman run SME has to overcome. 1 These shall hereafter be referred to as SMEs which shall more specifically be defined in Chapter Two of this study.