

The logo for FOMĖK, featuring the letters 'FOMĖK' in a bold, sans-serif font. The letter 'E' is stylized with a small 'v' shape above it, resembling a mountain peak or a stylized '3'.

FOMĖK

Federation of
Middle Market Enterprises
of Korea

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- About the Federation of Middle Market Enterprises of Korea
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- History

FOMEK
communication
channel

Website
www.fomek.or.kr
www.mme.or.kr

Newsletters
BiZNET
MME Policy Brief

App FOMEK Plus

MME policy magazine
重深 (JungSim)

Issue Resolution Platform for MMEs
shinmungo.fomek.or.kr



Facebook YouTube



MIDDLE MARKET ENTERPRISES THE CORE OF THE KOREAN ECONOMY

MMEs lead Korean change and innovation.
Our cutting-edge technological prowess makes the impossible possible
at the forefront of industrial paradigm shift.
Korea's 5,868 MMEs account for 1.4% of all domestic businesses and
form the core of the national economy.

1.4%

5,868
Number of enterprises

15.2%

KRW **984.3** trillion
Total revenue

13.6%

17.04 million
Jobs

18.7%

USD **118.2** billion
Exports

13.7%

KRW **30.3** trillion
Facility Investment

13.9%

KRW **13.1** trillion
R&D Investment

Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (2024),
2023 Basic Statistics on Middle Market Enterprise
Statistics Korea (2025), 2023 trade statistics by business type
Korea Development Bank (KDB) (2024),
2024 Survey Report of Facility Investment Plans
Ministry of Science and ICT (2024),
2023 Survey of Research and Development

Only 1

Korea's one and only
legal economic entity
representing MMEs

Big 6

One of Korea's six
leading economic
entities

2014

Statutory entity
prescribed by 2014
Middle Standing
Enterprises Special Act



FOMEK FEDERATION OF MIDDLE
MARKET ENTERPRISES
OF KOREA
**THE CORE OF
COMMUNICATION
& INNOVATION**
FOR MMEs MIDDLE MARKET ENTERPRISES

FOMEK supports the sustainable growth of Korea's
middle market enterprises and their development into
specialized global enterprises.

We create healthy industrial ecosystems and continue
the smooth flow of corporate growth.

FOMEK is the core of Korean MME innovation.

I.

Building the foundation for sustainable growth

II.

Strengthening the capacity for innovation

IV.

Activating networks

III.

Spreading economic and social value

INCREASING THE VALUE OF MIDDLE MARKET ENTERPRISES

Developing the competitiveness of MMEs is FOMEK's mission

FOMEK is committed to improving the legal and institutional environment at the foundation of sustainable growth and strengthening the innovation capacity of MMEs as specialized global enterprises. Through close cooperation and communication, FOMEK spreads the social values of freedom, creativity, equity, and justice.

I

Building the foundation for sustainable growth

Enterprise requires endless movement and growth. FOMEK supports the sustainable growth of Korean MMEs through development of a legal and institutional environment and the passing on of the entrepreneurial spirit.

Laws and institutions amended

144 cases (19 in 2024)

Time-honored business



MME certificates issued



26,812 cases (3,830 in 2024)

MME information website

8,381,743 visits



FOMEK members

CTR 2024

KPF 2024

Sempio 2024

Autonics 2023

Korea Houghton 2023

Bosung Powertec 2022

Buhmwoo Chemical 2021

Hyoseong Electric 2021

Samjin Globalnet 2021

Woojin Industrial Systems 2021

Ehwa Diamond 2020

Cheong Ju Limestone 2019

Namsung 2019

Mirae N 2018

Commax 2017

Addressing legal and institutional hurdles to MME growth

- Assistance in establishing the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy's master plans and action plans for the promotion of MME growth
- Identifying unnecessary regulations and introducing policy proposals in the areas of Special Act on the Promotion of Growth and the Strengthening of Competitiveness of Middle-Standing Enterprises, tax systems, laws and institutions related to sales channels, employment, labor, finance, carbon neutral, environment, mutually beneficial cooperation, trade, Commercial Act and Fair Transactions Act
- Participation in government and legislative policy roundtables including the Regulatory Innovation Strategy Meeting; the Materials, Parts and Equipment Competitiveness Committee; the Economic, Social and Labor Council; the Middle-Standing Enterprise Policy Committee; and the Korea Commission for Corporate Partnership
- Operation of issue resolution platform for MMEs

Laws and institutions amended by year and category

Year	Employment	Tech-nology	Industry	Exports/sales channels	Sub-contracting/partnerships	Finance	Misc.	Total
2024	2	1	4	1	1	1	9	19
2023	3	-	6	3	-	-	6	18
2022	1	2	2	-	-	-	4	9
2021	1	4	-	2	-	-	2	9
2020	-	-	3	1	-	2	3	9
2019	4	-	3	-	-	3	2	12
2018	6	2	1	1	1	-	1	12
2017	2	2	4	1	-	-	-	9
2016	5	2	-	4	-	1	1	13
2015	7	6	10	4	3	-	4	34
Total	31	19	33	17	5	7	32	144

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Policy roundtables by year

Year	Meetings	Details
2024	27	MME roundtable with National Tax Service's Investigation Bureau, Feb. 5 MME roundtable with the leader of the People Power Party, Sep. 10 MME roundtable with the leader of the Democratic Party of Korea, Sep. 11 Roundtable between Prime Minister & presidents of major six economic entities, Dec. 23
2023	13	MME roundtable with leader of People Power Party, May 22 Roundtable with deputy prime minister & minister of economy and finance, June 26 Roundtable with minister of Trade, Industry and Energy, Sep. 26
2022	15	Luncheon & roundtable between President-elect and presidents of major 6 economic entities, Mar. 21 Roundtable with Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy, Jun. 8 Roundtable with Minister of Environment, Dec. 6
total	55	

MME Innovative Growth Policy Forum*

- Seminars featuring experts from the private sector, government, and academia to explore the next paradigm shift in MME development policy

* Platform for MME policy innovation led by private sector

Key achievements in 2024

- Plan to reform inheritance and gift taxes for sustainable MME growth, Nov. 19

MME Basic statistics services

- Survey of statistics for MMEs and prospective MMEs
- Survey of MMEs and prospective MMEs
- MME business outlook survey
- MME investment and employment outlook survey
- MME financial challenges survey

Policy proposals and research reports aimed at improving laws and legal institutions which current obstruct the sustainable growth of MMEs.

In 2024, FOMEK met with the government and National Assembly more than 20 times, proposing effective alternative policies for the improvement of MME business environments.



MME roundtable with national assembly speaker Woo Won-shik Mar. 7, 2025



Source: Office of the President

Roundtable between President Lee Jae-myung and presidents of major six economic entities and businessmen Jun. 13, 2025

MME certification and policy information services

- Issuance of MME certificates
- Operation of the MME information website
- Publication of guide MMEs Support Policies
- Publication of the handbook on the scope of MMEs

Consulting for MMEs through partnerships with specialized agencies

- Provision of tailored solutions through a network of specialized agencies and institutions*

* Barun LLC, Deloitte Anjin LLC, DR&AJU LLC, Jipyong LLC, KB securities, KIAT, KICOX, KODIT, Korea Eximbank, Korea Securities Depository, KOTEC, KOTRA, K-Sure, LB PE, Lee&Ko LLC, Lockton Korea, RE Investment, Samil PwC, Samjong KPMG, Shin & Kim LLC

Details

Legal	Finance & Accounting	New business areas & others
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business succession & taxes• Serious Accidents Punishment Act• Fair trade & reform of corporate governance structure• Employment, labor, & HR management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Funding and finances, IPO• Innovative growth fund• Internal accounting controls and others	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Entry into foreign markets• Development of new growth drivers• R&D & intellectual property rights• Analyzing economic trends & forecasts, and others.

Assistance in business succession to preserve the entrepreneurial spirit

- Proposals for the amendment of laws and institutions relating to business succession, including inheritance tax, gift tax, and the family business succession tax deduction system
- Roundtables, debates, and seminars on family business succession

Operation of time-honored business certification scheme* to MMEs

- Search for and recommendation of MMEs as time-honored business candidates
 - Participation in candidate review committee
- * Scheme adopted by the Ministry of SMEs and Startups in 2016 to establish role models for enterprise growth and recognize exemplary cases of socially responsible businesses

Changes in 2025

- Additional scoring benefits for Ministry of National Defense’s special types of military service (industrial technical personnel) and Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy’s Export Voucher Program

FOMEK members

CTR 2024, KPF 2024, Sempio 2024, Autonics 2023, Korea Houghton 2023, Bosung Powertec 2022, Buhmwoo Chemical 2021, Hyoseong Electric 2021, Samjin Globalnet 2021, Woojin Industrial Systems 2021, Ehwa Diamond 2020, Cheong Ju Limestone 2019, Namsung 2019, Mirae N 2018, Commax 2017

II

Strengthening the capacity for innovation

The blinding speed of AI advancement accelerates a mammoth shift of human civilization at a blistering pace. FOMEK provides MMEs space to innovate, establishing predominance in technologies that lie beyond the state-of-the-art.

R&D worker development support programs for MMEs

788 researchers
(119 in 2024)

186 participating enterprises (80 in 2024)

Supporting MMEs expand global networks



Roundtables and Seminars on trade, commerce, and global networking

27 cases
(13 in 2024)

MME delegations dispatched abroad

14 cases
(2 in 2024)

MME job fair



40,687 job-seekers
(6,688 in 2024)

697 participating enterprises (164 in 2024)

MME human resources fosterage academy



12,815 participants
(1,591 in 2024)

MME key point seminar



34 sessions (10 in 2024)

730 participating enterprises (179 in 2024)

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Creation and operation of MME leap-forward support fund

- Raising and operating a public-private MME innovation fund to restore growth ladder and secure new growth drivers
- * 1st round: KRW 105 billion, 2nd round: KRW 56 billion, 3rd round: KRW 42 billion

Support of MME-startups open innovation

- Support of cooperation and matching between MMEs and Startups
- Joint open innovation support program 'I'M Challenge' with Seoul Business Agency
- Launch of regional MME open innovation with DVS (Dream Venture Star) in cooperation with Korea Credit Guarantee Fund and Daejeon Center for Creative Economy & Innovation

MME investment leaders forum

- Eleven-week program with expert lectures and workshops to support search for new growth engines, tech innovation investment and M&A capacity for MMEs
- * Korea's one and only private network for cooperation between MMEs and investment agencies

MME CFO forum

- Six-week program with expert lectures and workshops for chief financial officers of MMEs

MME sustainability conference

- Identify MME benchmarks and promote management strategies & growth know-how

Streamlining trade and commerce environment for MMEs

- Survey on MME export outlook and challenges
- Trade and commerce training sessions for MMEs
- Policy proposals to tackle trade-related issues for MMEs

Reporting Center for Unfair Trade Practices by MMEs

- Finding and reporting of unfair trade practices to Korea Trade Commission

Domestic-to-Export Transition Support Team

- Services in partnership with 19 agencies in 4 sectors: consulting, sales channels and logistics, financing, and technology and certifications
- Identification of challenges faced by novice exporters and submission of proposals to the government and National Assembly, among others, for solution development

Support for MMEs in forming global partnerships

- Business networking and roundtables with related agencies, such as foreign missions and investment authorities in Korea, of key countries where Korean MMEs are active
- Participate in economic missions abroad and support network building



MME human resources fosterage academy

- Provision of capacity-boosting education and training for MME employees and executives
 - Up to 100% of tuition subsidized
 - Key programs: Global Business, New growth engine, ESG, Exports, Finance, etc.

Korea's one and only MME job fair

- Operation of consultation and interview booths for each participating MME; recruiting information sessions and special talks on each job area; online publicity for staff-seeking MMEs

R&D worker development support programs for MMEs

- Payroll subsidies to MMEs operating dedicated R&D departments with average annual revenues of less than KRW 300 billion over the past 3 years
 - 40% base-salary subsidization for up to 3 years for young master's and doctoral degree holders and R&D personnel with professional technical research experience in engineering and the natural sciences

Recommendation of MMEs as designated enterprises for alternative military service

- Support for assignment of industrial technical personnel (alternative to military service) to MMEs in manufacturing, information processing, energy, and mining

MME key point seminar

- Monthly customized training for member companies
- Strategic response suggestions regarding key issues faced by MMEs
- Major sectors: Law, accounting, finance and investment, human resources and labor, ESG, intellectual property, R&D, etc.



III

Spreading economic and social value

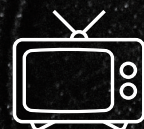
We are working today to promote sensible perceptions of MMEs as a treasure trove of good jobs in Korea and the middle rungs of the growth ladder.

Government commendation awards given at middle market entrepreneur's day



× 319
recipients (37 in 2024)

Featured on the KBS1 special MME documentary series



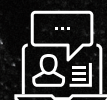
× 97
participating enterprises (16 in 2024)

MME public relations support services



media publicity

119
cases
(5 in 2024)



online publicity

1,037
cases
(149 in 2024)

The 10th middle market entrepreneur's day ceremony/ Dec. 16, 2024

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Middle market entrepreneur's day ceremony

- Held annually during the 3rd week of November to recognize MMEs with merit in the realm of Korean economic and industrial progress and share best business practices
- Government commendation of outstanding MME entrepreneurs, recognition of newcomer MMEs with outstanding growth, etc.

Changes in 2025

- Launch of Commissioner's Award by Korean Intellectual Property Office

Awards by year

	Order of Industrial Service Merit	Industrial Service Medal	Presidential Commendation	Prime Minister's Commendation	Ministerial Commendation	Commissioner's Commendation	Total
10th(2024)	2	2	4	5	24	-	37
9th(2023)	2	2	4	5	24	-	37
8th(2022)	2	2	4	5	14	-	27
7th(2021)	2	2	4	5	24	-	37
6th(2020)	1	2	3	5	24	-	35
5th(2019)	-	1	2	4	17	-	24
4th(2018)	1	1	2	4	24	-	32
3rd(2017)	2	1	2	4	8	14	31
2nd(2016)	3	2	2	4	9	15	35
1st(2015)	1	1	2	2	8	10	24
total	16	16	29	43	176	39	319

MME year-end party

- Presentation of annual MME results and discussion of directions for advancement

Sharing happiness

MME charity market project

- Outstanding products and services offered at discounted prices to FOMEK members
- Commission of all proceeds donated to charity

Production of KBS1 special MME documentary series

- Stories on the growth, achievements, and management philosophies of leading MMEs

2024

Episode 1 (Industrial Machinery) DN Solutions, PNT, Oct. 13

Episode 2 (Fashion) Se-Wang Textile, JS Corporation, Oct. 20

Episode 3 (Electrical & Signal Systems) Shinbo, Daeati, Oct. 27

Episode 4 (Exploration of the Blue Ocean) KBI Cosmolink, SurplusGlobal, Nov. 3

Episode 5 (Core Technology) Sunic System, Bankwareglobal, Nov. 10

Episode 6 (Materials, Parts, and Equipment) Almac, Tavis, Nov. 17

Episode 7 (Technology Localization) K-Ktech, IBIDEN Graphite Korea, Nov. 24

Episode 8 (Technology Innovation) Daeryuk Can, Woongjin Thinkbig, Dec. 1

2023

Episode 1 (State-of-the-Art Tech) Eagon Windows & Doors, RS Automation, Oct. 29

Episode 2 (Exports) NUC Electronics, Junjin Construction & Robot, Nov. 5

Episode 3 (ESG) Hanmi Global, Korea Electric Power Industrial Development, Nov. 12

Episode 4 (Distribution Chains) Taekyung Group, Solum, Nov. 19

Episode 5 (DX) Macrogen, Hansae Fashion Worldwide, Nov. 26

Episode 6 (Job Creation) Autronics, Ilshin Vitson, Dec. 3

Episode 7 (Communities) JW Life Science, Shilla Steel, Dec. 10

Episode 8 (Win-Win Growth) Duckil Industry, Innodex, Dec. 17

MME public relations support services

- Support for media publicity, from press releases to media roundtables and interviews
- Support for online publicity via websites, newsletters, apps, and social media
- Production of PR video series "MME Biographies" for outstanding member companies

IV

Activating networks

Expertise from the longest-standing and most cutting-edge MMEs is shared at FOMEK. Together, FOMEK explores new paths for future growth.

Lectures for MME CEOs

 **188**
sessions

MME Business Round Table

 **4**
gatherings/year

MME Female CEO Network

 **4**
gatherings/year

MME V-CEO Club

 **4**
gatherings/year

Young MME CEO Network

 **80**
members

Green Business Community

 **8**
gatherings/year

MME Network by region

 **5**
areas

MME CFO Council

 **57**
members

MME Tech Network

 **30**
members

MME HR Smart Hub

 **20**
members

MME Public Relations Cooperation Network

 **82**
members

The reception room on the 13th floor of the SIMPAC building in the Yeouido district of Seoul(2010~2022).

Around ten years ago, MME CEOs gathered here for lunch every week to discuss the progress of MMEs, including legislation of the Middle-standing Enterprises Act. Presently, the roundtable is hosted by the FOMEK secretariat.

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Lectures for MME CEOs

- 4 lectures annually, given by key political and economic figures and opinion leaders

MME Business Round Table

- Held 4 times annually to discuss management innovation and policy improvements for MMEs

MME Female CEO Network

- Roundtables on management innovation and mentoring for female MME CEOs

MME V-CEO Club

- Innovative growth and new venture development support programs for MME CEO successors in their 40s and 50s

Young MME CEO Network

- Skill-building and network-expanding programs for the leaders of the next generation of MMEs

Green Business Community: an MME Golfing Community

- 8 friendly golf competitions held annually

MME Network by region*

- Programs to improve competitiveness and reinforce networks among regional MMEs
- * Daegu-Gyeongbuk, Southeast, Honam, Chungcheong, the Metropolitan area

MME CFO Council

- Roundtables for MME CFOs

MME Tech Network

- Performance-sharing seminars for technology managers of MMEs

MME HR Smart Hub

- Roundtables for MME HR managers

MME Public Relations Cooperation Network

- Capacity-building workshops for public relations officers at MMEs

History of FOMEK

2025

Jun. Management Advisory Committee launched

2024

Jan. MME Daegu-Gyeongbuk region Network launched

Mar. MME V-CEO Club launched

Dec. MME Southeastern region Network launched

2023

Sep. MME Investment Leaders Forum launched

Oct. Special Act on Promotion of Growth and Strengthening of Competitiveness of Middle-Standing Enterprises converted to and implemented as permanent law

2022

Apr. MME Innovative Growth Policy Forum launched

MME CFO Council launched

2019

Feb. Renamed as the Federation of Middle Market Enterprises of Korea

2018

Feb. MME entrepreneurs' responsible management declaration announced

2017

Apr. Young MME CEO Network launched

Jul. MME CHO Council launched
*Renamed as MME HR Smart Hub, 2025

Oct. MME public relations cooperation network launched

2016

Mar. MME CTO Council launched
*Renamed as MME Tech Network, 2025

2015

Jul. 1st middle market entrepreneur's day ceremony

2014

Jan. Legislation of Special Act on the Promotion of Growth and the Strengthening of Competitiveness in Middle Standing Enterprises

Jul. Association of High Potential Enterprises of Korea as a legal entity launched

2013

Apr. Proclamation of vision for MMEs and opening of the 2013 specialized global enterprises forum

Jun. ~Sep. Opening of the 1st to 5th National Assembly relay policy debates

2008

Sep. Inaugurated committee to legalization of MMEs Korea

1995

Mar. Authorized as a corporate body

1992

Sep. Establishment of the Korea Businessmen's Federation

Create the future with FOMEK

MMEs will become the unwavering core of the Korean economy

In an era of uncertainty
we are leading the innovation of the Korean economy
Committed to sustained excellence and
hand-in-hand growth



The background of the image is a solid orange color. In the lower half, there are several layers of wavy, zigzag lines in a slightly darker shade of orange, creating a sense of depth and movement. The word "FOMEK" is centered in the upper half of the image, written in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

FOMEK