


# INNOVATION DATA: NIGERIA & SOUTH AFRICA AT A GLANCE

## SERVICES

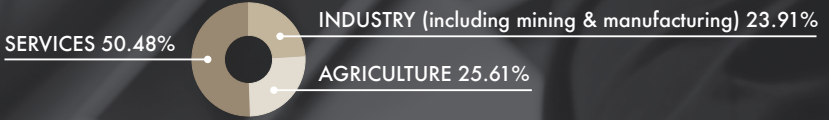
A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a silver Visa credit card over a payment terminal. The terminal screen displays a blue interface with the number '53285' and the text 'Total amount due: R200.00'. In the background, a wooden table holds a glass of dark coffee on a white saucer with a black napkin, and a wine glass. The scene is set in a cafe or restaurant.

Nigeria and South Africa are Africa's largest economies, with a combined GDP that rivals those of all other African nations together. However, GDP growth rates in both countries have stalled in recent years, and major societal ills persist. As middle-income economies that have made a transition from primary industry to services-based growth, Nigeria and South Africa's innovation performance should concern policy-makers.

As this Fact Sheet illustrates, while services firms in both countries use training and technology acquisition as key innovation strategies to improve the quantity and quality of their value propositions, Nigerian and South African firms face critical financial and other barriers to innovation.

# NIGERIA (2008 – 2010)

## ECONOMIC STRUCTURE (% OF GDP)



## NUMBER & TYPE OF FIRMS SURVEYED



## INNOVATION-ACTIVE FIRMS\*

\* Firms with successful, and ongoing and/or abandoned, innovation activities.



## FIRMS WITH SUCCESSFUL INNOVATION ACTIVITY

57.5%



## FIRMS WITH ONGOING AND/OR ABANDONED INNOVATION ACTIVITY

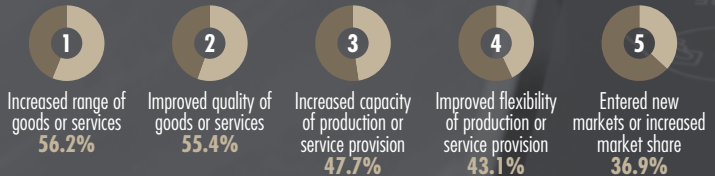
21.7%



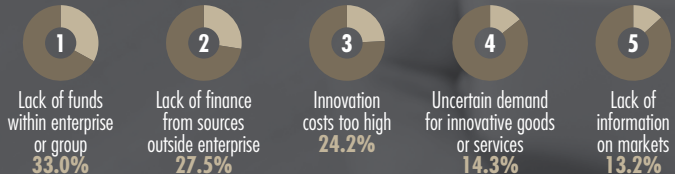
## TOP 5 INNOVATION ACTIVITIES OF INNOVATION-ACTIVE FIRMS



## HIGHLY IMPORTANT EFFECTS OF INNOVATION ON BUSINESS GOALS FOR INNOVATION-ACTIVE FIRMS



## HIGHLY IMPORTANT BARRIERS TO INNOVATION FOR FIRMS WITHOUT INNOVATION ACTIVITY





# SOUTH AFRICA (2010 – 2012)

## ECONOMIC STRUCTURE (% OF GDP)

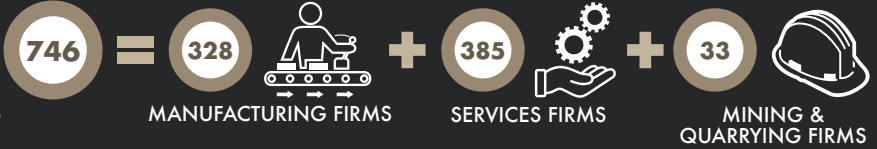
SERVICES 72.04%



AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY & FISHING 2.59%

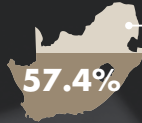
INDUSTRY (including mining, manufacturing & electricity, gas & water) 25.38%

## NUMBER & TYPE OF FIRMS SURVEYED



## INNOVATION-ACTIVE FIRMS

\* Firms with **successful**, and **ongoing and/or abandoned**, innovation activities.



NOT INNOVATION-ACTIVE 42.6%

## FIRMS WITH SUCCESSFUL INNOVATION ACTIVITY

54.3%



## FIRMS WITH ONGOING AND/OR ABANDONED INNOVATION ACTIVITY

45.7%



## TOP 5 INNOVATION ACTIVITIES OF INNOVATION-ACTIVE FIRMS



Staff training 71.0%



Acquisition of machinery, equipment & software 70.1%



Intramural (in-house) R&D 64.3%



Market introduction of innovations 48.4%



Acquisition of other external knowledge 46.6%

## HIGHLY IMPORTANT EFFECTS OF INNOVATION ON BUSINESS GOALS FOR INNOVATION-ACTIVE FIRMS



Improved quality of goods or services 42.1%



Increased range of goods & services 39.4%



Entered new markets or increased market share 31.2%



Improved flexibility of production or service provision 29.4%



Increased capacity of production or service provision 28.5%

## HIGHLY IMPORTANT BARRIERS TO INNOVATION FOR FIRMS WITHOUT INNOVATION ACTIVITY



Market dominated by established enterprises 12.2%



Uncertain demand for innovative goods or services 10.4%



Lack of funds within enterprise or group 10.4%



Lack of qualified personnel 10.4%



Innovation costs too high 9.1%


## BEHIND THE NUMBERS


This Fact Sheet is a joint product of the Centre for Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators (CeSTII) at South Africa's Human Sciences Research Council and Nigeria's National Centre for Technology Management (NACETEM). Both CeSTII and NACETEM are responsible for the production of science, technology and innovation indicators. Data is drawn from the South African Business Innovation Survey (2008) and from the Nigerian Business Innovation Survey (2010). Both surveys were conducted using the OECD's Oslo Manual, allowing for international comparability of data. GDP data was sourced from Statistics South Africa and Nigeria's National Bureau of Statistics.

## ABOUT NACETEM

NACETEM is an agency of Nigeria's Federal Ministry of Science and Technology that provides critical knowledge support in the area of STI management for sustainable development.

### CONTACT US

 National Centre for Technology Management, Federal Ministry of Science and Technology, P.M.B 012, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria

 Prof Okechukwu Ukwuoma  
dg.ceo@nacetem.gov.ng

### CONNECT WITH US

 @nacetemng1


 <http://tiny.cc/NACETEM>

 [www.nacetem.gov.ng](http://www.nacetem.gov.ng)

## ABOUT CeSTII

CeSTII is a policy research institute of the Human Sciences Research Council, which performs national studies on R&D and innovation on behalf of the Department of Higher Education, Science and Technology.


### CONTACT US


 Human Sciences Research Council  
Merchant House (4<sup>th</sup> Floor)  
116-118 Buitengracht Street, Cape Town

 Dr Glenda Kruss  
gkruss@hsrc.ac.za

### CONNECT WITH US

 Engage with us on Twitter @HSRC\_CeSTII

 Find us on LinkedIn

 See us on Instagram

This Fact Sheet is No. 18 in the CeSTII Fact Sheet series. It was produced during a research visit to South Africa by NACETEM's Dr Abiodun Egbetokun in May 2019, which was sponsored by the InterAcademy Partnership. To access all previous CeSTII Fact Sheets and other research products, go to <http://www.hsrc.ac.za/en/departments/CeSTii/latest-results>