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# **Promoting Women in Small Business: Australian Initiatives and Programs**



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## Outline

- Introduction
- Federal Initiatives
- State Initiatives
- Celebrating Women's Achievements
- Resources



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## Introduction

- Small businesses = less than 20 employees
- 1.93 million active small businesses (1, 927 590) in Australia representing 96% of all businesses
- More than 30% of small business operators in Australia are women.



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## Introduction – continued...

- Leading industries include education, health, consultancy, retail and consumer goods.
- Exporting regions



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## Federal Government Initiatives: Austrade

- Austrade is the Australian Government's trade and investment development agency ([www.austrade.gov.au](http://www.austrade.gov.au))
- Provides tailored support for women in business
- *Women in Export Program*
- *Export Market Development Grants*



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## National initiatives: Supporting small businesses

- Textiles, Clothing and Footwear Small Business Program
- Small Business Advisory Services Program
- Enterprise Connect
- New Enterprise Incentive Scheme



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## National Initiatives: Indigenous business support

- Indigenous Business Australia Enterprises
- Indigenous Business Development Program
- Indigenous Capital Assistance Scheme
- Indigenous Small Business Fund
- Toolkit for Indigenous Women in Business



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## State-based initiatives: Supporting women in business

- New South Wales:
  - Women in Business Program
  - Women in Business Mentor Program
  - Women in Business Regional Program
  - Women in Business Growth Strategy Workshop Program
  - Women Going Global Program
- Victoria
  - Showcasing Women in Small Business



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## Celebrating women's achievements

- The Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency (EOWA):
  - EOWA Business Achievement Awards
  - EOWA Employer of Choice for Women Women's Awards
- Telstra Business Women's Awards
- Sharing success stories



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## Resources

- **Australian Government Office for Women:**  
[www.ofw.fahcsia.gov.au](http://www.ofw.fahcsia.gov.au)
- **Australian Trade Commission (Austrade):**  
[www.austrade.gov.au](http://www.austrade.gov.au)
- Useful links hand-out
- Questions?