

# Foreword

*Financing SMEs and Entrepreneurs 2020: An OECD Scoreboard* provides a comprehensive framework for policy makers and other stakeholders to monitor access to finance by SMEs and entrepreneurs. This report also constitutes a valuable tool to support the design and evaluation of policy measures, and to monitor the implications of financial reforms on access to finance and financing conditions for SMEs more generally. The 2020 report provides information about SMEs' and entrepreneurs' access to finance over the 2007-18 period. Based on data collected for the country profiles and information from demand-side surveys, it includes indicators on debt, equity and asset-based finance, as well as on financing framework conditions, complemented by information on recent public and private initiatives to support SME access to finance.

The 2020 report is the eight edition of this annual report. It presents data for 48 countries: Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, the People's Republic of China, Colombia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Russian Federation, Serbia, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Chapter 1 of this publication captures recent trends in SME and entrepreneurship finance, drawing on data received from experts from participating countries, as well as from external sources. It also provides an overview of major policy developments across Scoreboard countries. Chapter 2 puts the spotlight on a thematic issue of particular interest. This edition focuses on the evolution of SME financing policies since the financial crisis in 2008 and documents the shift from immediate crisis response measures to addressing more structural issues and putting in place the appropriate regulatory environment for Fintech. Chapter 3 contains profiles of SME and entrepreneurship developments, as well as relevant policies, for all 48 participating countries. The print edition of this publication includes a snapshot view with key facts and figures, while the more detailed, complete profiles, can be accessed online.

This publication was prepared by the SME and Entrepreneurship Division of the Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities (CFE/SMEE) under the guidance of the OECD Working Party on SMEs and Entrepreneurs (WPSMEE) and the WPSMEE Informal Steering Group on SME and Entrepreneurship Financing. The initial findings were discussed at the meeting of the WPSMEE Informal Steering Group on SME Finance on 10 and 11 September 2019, and a more advanced version of the report was presented at the 56th meeting of the WPSMEE on 16 and 17 October 2019. The final report was approved by written procedure on 17 January 2020 [CFE/SME(2019)11/CHAP1/FINAL, CFE/SME(2019)11/CHAP2/FINAL and CFE/SME(2019)11/CHAP3/ADD/FINAL].

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This report was prepared by Kris Boschmans, Policy Analyst (CFE/SMEE) under the supervision of Miriam Koreen (Senior Counsellor, CFE/SMEE) and Lucia Cusmano (Acting Head of Division, CFE/SMEE). Jules Beley, Erika Soki and Maria Zamyatina (Trainees, CFE/SMEE) contributed to the publication. Heather Mortimer-Charoy provided technical support and Francois Iglesias communications support.

## Country expert team

<b>Australia</b>	Evan Holley	Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business
	Elizabeth Yoo	Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business
<b>Austria</b>	Florian Eichberger	Federal Ministry for Digital and Economic Affairs
<b>Belgium</b>	Johan Westra	Federal Ministry of Economy, SMEs, Self-employed and Energy
	Christophe Herinckx	Federal Ministry of Economy, SMEs, Self-employed and Energy
<b>Belarus</b>	Irina Babachenok	Ministry of the Economy
<b>Brazil</b>	Alfredo Gonçalves Nascimento	Special Secretary for Micro and Small Enterprises (SEMPE)
<b>Canada</b>	Richard Archambault	Innovation Science and Economic Development Canada
<b>Chile</b>	Manuel López Bugueño	Ministry for the Economy, Development, and Tourism
	David Alejandro Calderón Mora	Ministry for the Economy, Development, and Tourism
<b>China</b>	Wu Bao	China Institute for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
	Renyong Chi	China Institute for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
	Chenfei Jin	China Institute for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
<b>Colombia</b>	Jose David Quintero Nieto	Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism
<b>Czech Republic</b>	Veronika Reek	Ministry of Industry and Trade
	Lukeš Zdenek	Ministry of Industry and Trade
<b>Denmark</b>	Anna Guldborg Ølgaard	Ministry of Industry, Business and Financial Affairs
	Rasmus Borup Nielsen	Ministry of Industry, Business and Financial Affairs
<b>Estonia</b>	Karel Lember	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
<b>Finland</b>	Eeva Alho	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment
<b>France</b>	Jean-Pierre Villetelle	Banque de France
	Simon Verna	General Directorate for Competitiveness, Industry and Services
<b>Georgia</b>	Tinatín Khulordava	Enterprise Georgia

<b>Greece</b>	Timotheos Rekkas	Hellenic Ministry for Economy and Development
	Athanasios Argyriou	Hellenic Ministry for Economy and Development
<b>Hungary</b>	Péter Pogácsás	Ministry of Innovation and Technology
<b>Indonesia</b>	Yonas Dian Hermanu	Ministry of Cooperative and SMEs
<b>Ireland</b>	Leona Cantillon	Department of Finance, Banking Policy Division
	Eric Gargan	Department of Finance, Banking Policy Division
<b>Israel</b>	Nir Ben-Aharon	Small and Medium Business Agency, Ministry of Economy
<b>Italy</b>	Sabrina Pastorelli	Bank of Italy
<b>Japan</b>	Daiji Hotihama	Small and Medium Enterprise Agency, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry
	Ryota Ochi	Small and Medium Enterprise Agency, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry
	Megumi Daiki	Small and Medium Enterprise Agency, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry
<b>Kazakhstan</b>	Anuar Ospanov	Damu Entrepreneurship Fund
	Adlet Kerimbekov	Damu Entrepreneurship Fund
<b>Korea</b>	Meeroo Kim	Korea Development Institute
	Suhan Kim	Korea Development Institute
	Juyeon Seo	Korea Development Institute
<b>Latvia</b>	Liene Bergholde	Ministry of Economics
<b>Lithuania</b>	Petras Dubinskas	Bank of Lithuania
<b>Luxembourg</b>	Cesare Riilio	National Institute for Statistics and Economic Studies
<b>Malaysia</b>	Farhana Sheikh Salim Alkhatib	SME Corporation Malaysia
<b>Mexico</b>	Octavio Gutiérrez	INADEM
	Luis Manuel Rodríguez Avila	INADEM
	Ivan Ornelas Diaz	INADEM
<b>Netherlands</b>	Liselotte Van Thiel	Ministry of Economic Affairs
	Pawel Bonilla	Ministry of Economic Affairs
<b>New Zealand</b>	Katie Sadetskaya	Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment
	Saskia Berger	Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment
<b>Norway</b>	Eirik Knutsen	Statistics Norway
	Øystein Jørgensen	Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries
<b>Peru</b>	Daniel Jesus Vargas Canchan	Ministry of Production
<b>Poland</b>	Martyna Wiczorek	Ministry of Entrepreneurship and Technology
<b>Portugal</b>	António Almeida	Office of the Secretary of State of Economy and Regional Development
<b>Russia</b>	Evgeny Tcherbakov	Vnesheconombank
<b>Serbia</b>	Maja Gavrilovic	National Bank of Serbia
	Ana Ivkovic	National Bank of Serbia
<b>Slovak Republic</b>	Jakub Lukác	National Agency for SME Development
	Tatiana Smoronová	National Agency for SME Development
<b>Slovenia</b>	Tine Janžek	Bank of Slovenia
<b>South Africa</b>	Peter Makgetsi	National Treasury, Financial Sector Policy Unit
	Mulalo Mamburu	National Treasury, Financial Sector Policy Unit
<b>Spain</b>	Victor García-Vaquero	Bank of Spain
<b>Sweden</b>	Andreas Kroksgård	Swedish Agency for Growth Policy Analysis
<b>Switzerland</b>	Samuel Turcati	State Secretariat for Economic Affairs
<b>Thailand</b>	Davina Kunvipusilkul	Bank of Thailand
<b>Turkey</b>	Ufuk Acar	KOSGEB
	Utku Macit	Ministry of Science, Industry and Technology
<b>Ukraine</b>	Olena Kravchenko	SME Development Office
	Andrii Remizov	Ministry for Development of Economy, Trade and Agriculture
<b>United Kingdom</b>	Matt Adey	British Business Bank
	Anthony Gray	British Business Bank
<b>United States</b>	Giuseppe Gramigna	Small Business Administration
	Henry Childs	Minority Business Development Agency
	Ryan Sun	Minority Business Development Agency



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