




The OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities (CFE), invites you to the webinar

## Mobilising Public Guarantees for SMEs as a Policy Response to COVID-19

 2 June 2020  15:00 – 16:30 CEST (Paris time)  Zoom meeting

### WHAT'S THE ISSUE?

Loan guarantees are a widely used instrument across OECD countries and beyond to improve SME access to credit. As the COVID-19 crisis erupted, governments have extended the amount of funding available for guarantees, eased conditions, and raised public guarantee levels as a response to the current crisis. However, many financial institutions still appear reluctant to lend despite the availability of guarantees. In addition, there are concerns about the additionality and financial sustainability of credit guarantee schemes in the current economic climate.

100% public guarantees, introduced recently in some countries, represent a case in point. While these minimise the risk for banks and increases the take-up of guarantee programmes, they also risk to provide loans to unviable firms, with negative consequences to public finances and limited economic impact.

This webinar explores emerging country experiences with public guarantees for SMEs. It puts a spotlight on practices to made credit guarantee schemes more accessible to SMEs in need of finance, how to set eligibility criteria right under current circumstances, and how to deal with potential risks related to additionality and sustainability.

### WHY ATTEND THE WEBINAR?

The event will present and discuss the latest trends in the use of public guarantees for SMEs in the COVID-19 context. Speakers include representatives from public guarantee organisations and policy makers, followed by an open discussion.

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| 15:00 – 15:05 | <b>Introduction to the webinar (moderator)</b><br>Dr. Kris Boschmans, Policy Analyst, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions, and Cities            |
| 15:05 – 15:15 | <b>Policy dilemma's in using public guarantees</b><br>Stephan Raes, Policy Analyst, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions, and Cities              |
| 15:15 – 15:20 | <b>Queries, comments and discussion</b>  |
| 15:20 – 15:40 | <b>Views and initiatives from the sector</b><br>José Fernando Figueiredo, Special Honorary Chairman of AECM - European Association of Guarantee Institutions |
| 15:40 – 15:50 | <b>Views and initiatives from countries, France</b><br>Louis Boillot, Deputy Head of Corporate Finance and Development, French Treasury                      |
| 15:50 – 16:00 | <b>Views and initiatives from countries, Canada</b><br>Pierre Cléroux, Research and Chief Economist, Business Development Bank of Canada                     |
| 16:00 – 16:30 | <b>Queries, comments and discussion</b>  |

To participate in this webinar, please register [here](#)

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