



SME FINANCE  
FORUM

# Member services for 2021

***learn  
link  
lead!***

- Accelerating Finance for SMEs -



MANAGED BY

**IFC**

**International  
Finance Corporation**  
WORLD BANK GROUP

Welcome to the SME Finance Forum, a **global membership network of banks, NBFIs, development finance institutions, and fintech companies**. With over 220 institutions headquartered in more than 70 countries and operating in more than 190 countries, all of our members share a common commitment to serving small and medium enterprises so they can flourish and grow.



220 institutions



190 countries

Through participation in the SME Finance Forum's activities you will:

**Acquire new knowledge on good practices, and innovation in SME banking**



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**Make new business partnerships**



LINK

**Engage in a productive dialogue with policy makers and/or regulators on SME finance issues**



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# Our Offerings

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**Your membership with the SME Finance Forum gives you access to the following benefits**

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Unlimited free passes to attend our 2021 Global SME Finance Forum



Opportunity to be a speaker at one of our [online events](#) and other high-level events



Unlimited free access to our [monthly webinars](#), [COVID-19 virtual roundtables](#), [member spotlights](#) and [Leader Dialogue series](#)



Discounted admission to selected [partners events](#) (Finovate, Lendit, Money 2020)



Free access to our [SME Finance Virtual Marketplace](#)



Opportunity to be featured in our [Leader Dialogue](#) and our [member spotlight](#) series



[Members' Portal](#) for member only resources (webinar recordings and conference proceedings)



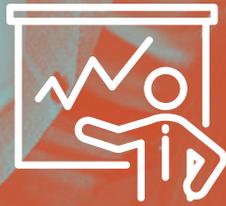
Member exposure and brand recognition on our [website](#) and [social media](#) channels



Communities of practices on [Risk Management](#), [Agrifinance](#) and [Women Entrepreneurs](#)



Customized on demand matchmaking and contact brokering



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A wide range of initiatives are designed to help members learn new knowledge, best practices, and improve their skills in SME finance in the most practical way, especially through “peer learning” activities. Some of the ongoing initiatives include:



## Webinars and Virtual Roundtables

[These online events](#) are organized monthly via WebEx or Zoom. You can participate from anywhere through your laptop or smartphone. Following are some of the key topic areas that are of strong interest to members and have been the focus of the SME Finance Forum:

**Risk management**

**Digital transformation**

**Women entrepreneurs finance**

**Agrifinance**

**Embedded finance**

**Credit guarantee**

**COVID-19 mitigation**



[Webinar - Digital Banking Solutions Series on Automation - Part II](#)



[Virtual Roundtable on COVID-19 Mitigation Efforts: New Lending into a Crisis](#)



## Leader Dialogue

The [Leader Dialogue Series](#) are one-on-one interviews with CEOs and senior executives of financial institutions and technology companies, as well as financial sector regulators. The series focuses on critical issues that matter to development and growth of MSMEs around the world. The invited guests share their perspectives, insights and leadership experiences in their respective domains.



## Member Spotlight

The [Member Spotlight](#) is intended for individual member institutions to showcase their good practice examples that are relevant and useful to the global community of SME financiers. With a webinar-style format, sessions are designed and delivered by the members with the support of the SME Finance Forum team. Members, especially winners of the [Global SME Finance Awards](#), will be given priority to be featured on the Spotlight program.

## Data Sets

The SME Finance Forum is collating existing SME data for public access. Specifically, the Forum is curating four datasets:



[MSME Economic Indicators Database](#), which records the number of formally registered MSMEs across 176 economies.



[IFC Enterprise Finance Gap Database](#), which estimates the degree of access to credit and use of deposit accounts for formal and informal MSMEs. The database currently covers 177 countries.



[IFC Reach Dataset](#) based on portfolio reporting from IFC's 300+ client financial institutions, detailing the numbers and amount of loans made to MSMEs. The Reach dataset is updated annually.



[Women – SME Finance Categorized Indicators](#), which identifies and categorizes Women, Business and the Law indicators of relevance to SME finance.



***LINK***

**GLOBAL**  
SME FINANCE  
FORUM 2021  
18-21 OCTOBER  
VIRTUAL EDITION



Greening SME Finance

**The Global SME Finance Forum is the annual flagship event of the SME Finance Forum,** where senior executives from hundreds of banks, NBFIs, development finance institutions, and fintech companies participate from around the world.

This year's will focus not only on the importance of greening SME finance and its roles in promoting a more resilient and sustainable future for SMEs post COVID-19 but also address some of the key issues and challenges, including, among others, greenwashing, data benchmarking and verification and misalignment between supply and demand.

We expect the participation of **2500 virtual attendees** from more than **1000 institutions** and **149 countries**.

**The Virtual Global SME Finance Forum 2021 will be held from October 18 to 21.**



## SME Finance Marketplace

The [SME Finance Virtual Marketplace](#) is a platform that promotes partnership between leading fintech, financial institutions, and investors. This online match-making platform allows members to regularly and virtually network and explore collaboration among themselves. The virtual marketplace is developed with support from [GlobalLinker](#), one of the founding members of the SME Finance Forum.



## Communities of Practice

With strong interests and requests from members, the SME Finance Forum has launched two new [communities of practices](#), one on [Agrifinance](#) and another on [Women Entrepreneurs Finance](#), besides an existing community of practice on [Risk Management](#). These communities of practices allow experts and practitioners from member institutions to share knowledge and good practices in their respective areas with one another. Most importantly, members openly share challenges that they face in their own institutions and help one another explore most suitable solutions based on their experiences.



## Immersion Programs

[Immersion programs](#) are designed to provide members with unique opportunities to visit and learn from successful and high performing financial institutions or fintech companies. The 2-day visits have been hosted annually by members DBS in Singapore and Wells Fargo in San Fransisco, USA. The dates and program for the immersion visits in 2021 will be determined based on COVID-19 situation.



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# Policy Dialogue and Research

The SME Finance Forum brings our members together with policymakers from the G20, the World Bank Group, OECD, APEC the Basel Institutions and other important bodies. We provide a safe space where industry and regulators can understand each other better and work together to improve SME access to finance environment. We provide numerous opportunities for our members to share experiences and ideas in high-level, by-invitation-only meetings.

As the lead implementing partner for the G20 countries' [Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion \(GPII\)](#) in their SME finance work, we produce high level guidance notes on current issues such as [promoting digital and innovative SME financing](#) to which many of our members contribute.

This year, we are undertaking a project to identify the supply of digital finance to SME. This research project will analyze the **growing role of digitalization in supporting access to financial services of MSMEs during the crisis caused by the outbreak of COVID-19**. The purpose of the study is threefold:

- (i) shedding light on whether digital financing innovations have been critical to vulnerable firms in coping with the emergency and assessing its untapped potential in the post-COVID landscape;
- (ii) discussing risks and benefits related to a wider use of digital financing tools and channels;
- (iii) paving the way for a more inclusive financial system.

As members of the SME Finance Forum, you have the opportunity to contribute to this important study.



## Global SME Finance Awards

[The awards](#) recognize and celebrate financial institutions and fintech companies for their outstanding achievements in delivering exceptional products and services to their SME clients. Endorsed by the GPII, the Global SME Finance Awards provide an opportunity for institutions to showcase and share their good practices and knowledge. The winners of the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the award program will be announced at the 2021 Global SME Finance Forum.

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