Call for Insights: SME Finance Outlook 2030

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. Who can participate in the contest?

Anyone can participate and more than one person per institution may apply. Essays could be co-authored.

2. Where can I submit my insights?


3. What is the deadline for submission?

The deadline is 31 May 2020.

4. What is the required format for your insight?

Participants are encouraged to share their vision in an op-ed style essay, 500-1,000 words in length. Content and internal structure of the piece are at the author’s discretion. Submissions in other languages (Chinese, French, Spanish, etc.) are also accepted.

5. How broad or narrow should the content be?

Your insights may focus on a particular country, region, sector, technology or challenge but the submission must articulate the wider implications for global SME finance in 2030.
6. Who will review and assess the pieces?

Submissions will be reviewed by judges, drawn from among leading experts in finance and SME development.

7. Are there specific selection criteria?

Entries should express creativity and authors should shape their vision as they see fit. Judges will select submissions based on the following criteria:

- Thought-provoking;
- Innovative;
- Original;
- Plausible;
- Clearly-expressed.

8. What are the prizes on offer?

Authors of all submissions that are selected by our panel of judges will receive a complimentary ticket (worth $2,000) to the Global SME Finance Forum 2020 in Bangkok, October 26-28 – where we will launch a new publication containing the insights. The most outstanding authors will be invited to address this meeting, and to share their perspectives with senior leaders from the World Bank and the IFC (during the event or at the Annual/Spring Meetings of the IMF and the World Bank Group). To learn more about our selection criteria, please see FAQ #7 above.