

AECM ANNUAL EVENT 2026

Lisbon, Portugal | 20 – 23 May 2026

*“Access to Finance: Investment Needs in a Global Context”
(Updated on 27 April 2026)*

WEDNESDAY, 20 MAY 2026

Venue: tbd

19:00 – 22:00	Welcome reception
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THURSDAY, 21 MAY 2026

Venue: Pátio da Galé, Praça do Comércio

Internal statutory meeting of AECM	
08:45 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:45	Board of Directors Meeting <i>(PT to EN and EN to FR) – AECM Board Members only</i>
10:00 – 12:30	Ordinary General Assembly Meeting <i>(PT to EN and EN to FR) – AECM full and associated Members only</i>
10:00 – 11:30	Internal meeting
11:30 – 11:45	Eugen Doce , Senior Director & Head of International Advisory Services, Presentation of the work and potential collaboration with the Frankfurt School International Advisory Services
11:45 – 12:30	Exchange on latest trends in the guarantee sector – a global perspective <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Luzayadio Simba, President of the Board of Directors of the Fundo de Garantia de Crédito (FGC), Angola• Guo Jinsong, Deputy General Manager, Anhui Credit Financing Guarantee Co., Ltd., China• Luz Stella Lozano Chona, Secretary General, Association of the Ibero-American network of guarantees - Red Iberoamericana de Garantías (REGAR)

Public conference “Access to Finance: investment needs in a Global Context” – 1st day (PT to EN and EN to FR) – no fee charged	
12:30 – 13:00	Networking Lunch
13:00 – 14:00	Registration & Welcome Coffee
14:00 – 14:05	Projection of the video AECM Portugal
14:05 – 14:45	Welcome & Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NN, Portugal • Gonçalo Regalado, CEO and Vice President of the Board of Directors, Banco Português de Fomento (BPF), Portugal • Guy Selbherr, President of AECM
14:45 – 15:30	Panel 1: From Guarantees to Growth: The Strategic Role of Promotional Banks and Institutions Moderator: Zenón Vázquez Irizar , Vice President Cesgar and Managing Director, Elkargi, Spain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marta Postuła, First Vice President of the Management Board, Bank Gospodarstwa Krajowego (BGK), Poland • Jēkabs Krieviņš, Member of the Management Board, ALTUM, Latvia • György Pulai, Deputy CEO, Garantiqa Hitelgarancia Zrt., Hungary
15:30 – 15:45	Keynote <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NN, Portugal
15:45 – 16:00	Networking Break

<p>16:00 – 16:45</p>	<p>Panel 2: Driving prosperity via innovation and competitiveness</p> <p>Moderator: Kurt Leutgeb, Head of Guarantees, Equity, Austria Wirtschaftsservice Gesellschaft mbH (aws), Austria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gijs Schilthuis, Director Sustainability, Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (GD AGRI), European Commission • Aliénor Margerit, Head of Unit, Access to Finance, Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW), European Commission • Milena Angelova, Member of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) and SME Envoy of Bulgaria, Secretary-General of the Bulgarian Industrial Capital Association (BICA), and Associate Professor, Institute for Economic Studies at the Bulgarian Academy of Science • Miguel Alves, CFO, Banco Português de Fomento (BPF), Portugal
<p>16:45 – 17:00</p>	<p>Keynote</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Davide Galli, President, SMEunited, Member of the Board of Confartigianato, and Entrepreneur
<p>17:00 – 17:15</p>	<p>Keynote: Leading Through Change: KODIT's AX-Driven Strategy for the Future of Finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sung Jun Kang, Chairperson and CEO, Korea Credit Guarantee Fund (KODIT), Korea
<p>17:15 – 17:30</p>	<p>Concluding remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NN, Portugal
<p>19:30</p>	<p>Gala Dinner</p> <p>Venue: Estufa Fria, Parque Eduardo VII, Lisbon</p>

FRIDAY, 22 MAY 2026

Venue: Pátio da Galé, Praça do Comércio

<p>Public conference</p> <p>“Access to Finance: investment needs in a Global Context” – 2nd day</p> <p>(PT to EN, EN to FR) – seminar fee charged</p>	
10:00 – 10:30	Registration & Welcome Coffee
10:30 – 10:45	<p>Welcome & Opening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NN, Portugal
10:45 – 11:00	<p>Keynote: Finance with Purpose: Empowering Sustainable, Productive and Efficient Agribusiness and Strengthening Rural Areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nikola Steinbock, Chairwoman of the Management Board, Landwirtschaftliche Rentenbank / Development Agency for Agribusiness, Germany
11:00 – 11:45	<p>Panel: Why are guarantees an effective instrument for innovation financing?</p> <p>Moderator: Shane McCullough, Head of Products, Strategy and Marketing, Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland (SBCI), Ireland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Luís Guimarães, CCO, Banco Português de Fomento (BPF), Portugal • Piotr Stolowski, Director, Head of Guarantees, Securitisation, and Inclusive Finance, European Investment Fund (EIF) • Estera Tajnikar, Deputy Director, Product Development and EU Programmes Department, SID - Slovenska izvozna in razvojna banka, Slovenia • Gerhard Huemer, Director Economic and Fiscal Policy, SMEunited

<p>11:45 - 12:00</p>	<p>Keynote: Presentation of the European Commission’s and EUIPO’s plans on IP-backed finance, including the future guarantee scheme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nathalie Berger, Director, Competitiveness Coordination, Directorate General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship & SMEs (DG GROW), European Commission • Andrea Di Carlo, Deputy Executive Director, European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO)
<p>12:00 -12:50</p>	<p>Keynote: Portugal’s achievements over the centuries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ricardo Diniz
<p>12:50 - 14:30</p>	<p>Group Photo & Networking Lunch</p>
<p>14:30 - 14:45</p>	<p>Keynote: Impact Assessment for guarantees at the EIF</p> <p>Helmut Kraemer-Eis, Head of Impact Assessment, Chief Economist, European Investment Fund (EIF)</p>
<p>14:45 - 15:45</p>	<p>Panel: The additionality and the impact of guarantees</p> <p>Moderator: Luke Aylward, Director Strategy & Product Development Banking business, British Business Bank (BBB), UK and Chairman of the AECM working group statistics and impact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horacio Molina Sánchez, Loyola University Andalusia, Spain • Yu-Shin Kim, Korea Technology Finance Corporation (KOTEC), Korea • Anthony Asonye, Managing Director, Impact Credit Guarantee Limited, Nigeria • Besnik Berisha, Managing Director and Board Member, The Kosovo Credit Guarantee Fund (KCGF), Kosovo
<p>15:45 - 16:00</p>	<p>Keynote: Internationalisation of SMEs: How to promote exports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lucia Cusmano, Head SME and Entrepreneurship Division, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities, OECD

16:00 - 16:10	Signing Event – BPF & HBOR Memorandum Signing
16:10 - 16:20	Presentation of and invite to the annual event of AECM in 2027
16:20 - 16:40	Keynote: The situation of SMEs in relation to external financing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hiroyasu Kaburaki, Japan Finance Corporation (JFC), Japan
16:40 - 17:00	Concluding remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NN, Portugal • Guy Selbherr, President of AECM
17:00 - 17:15	Porto de Honra (<i>a traditional, celebratory reception</i>)