

AECM ANNUAL EVENT 2026

Lisbon, Portugal | 20 – 23 May 2026

*“Access to Finance: Investment Needs in a Global Context”
(Updated on 12 May 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 meetings 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>
09:45 – 10:00	Networking Break & registration
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

<p>11:45 – 12:30</p>	<p>Exchange on latest trends in the guarantee sector – a global perspective Moderator: José Fernando Figueiredo, Special Honorary Chairman of AECM and Founding President of the Global Network of Guarantee Institutions (NGI)</p> <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)
<p>12:30 – 13:30</p>	<p>Networking Lunch</p>

<p>Public conference</p> <p>“Access to Finance: Investment needs in a Global Context” – 1st day</p> <p>(PT to EN and EN to FR) – no fee charged</p>	
<p>13:00 – 14:00</p>	<p>Registration & Welcome Coffee</p>
<p>14:00 – 14: 05</p>	<p>Projection of the video AECM Portugal</p>
<p>14:05 – 14:45</p>	<p>Welcome & Opening</p> <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

<p>14:45 – 15:30</p>	<p>Panel 1: From Guarantees to Growth: The Strategic Role of Promotional Banks and Institutions</p> <p>Moderator: Zenón Vázquez Irizar, Vice President Cesgar and Managing Director, Elkargi, Spain</p> <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
<p>15:30 – 15:45</p>	<p>Keynote</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NN, Portugal
<p>15:45 – 16:00</p>	<p>Group Photo & Networking Break</p>
<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>17:30 – 19:30</p>	<p>Time at leisure</p>
<p>19:30</p>	<p>Gala Dinner</p> <p>Transfer from the conference venue to the venue of the Gala Dinner Venue: Estufa Fria, Parque Eduardo VII, Lisbon</p>

FRIDAY, 22 MAY 2026

Venue: Pátio da Galé, Praça do Comércio

Public conference “Access to Finance: investment needs in a Global Context” – 2nd day (PT to EN, EN to FR) – seminar fee charged <i>- In parallel programme for accompanying persons -</i>	
10:00 – 10:30	Registration & Welcome Coffee
10:30 – 10:45	Welcome & Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NN, Portugal
10:45 – 11:45	Panel: Why are guarantees an effective instrument for innovation financing? Moderator: Shane McCullough , Head of Products, Strategy and Marketing, Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland (SBCI), Ireland <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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• Luís Guimarães, CCO, Banco Português de Fomento (BPF), Portugal
11:45 – 12:00	Keynote: Presentation of the European Commission’s and EUIPO’s plans on IP-backed finance, including the future guarantee scheme <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)

12:00 -12:50	<p>Keynote: Portugal's achievements over the centuries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ricardo Diniz
12:50 - 14:30	<p>Group Photo & Networking Lunch</p>
14:30 - 14:45	<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>
14:45 - 15:45	<p>Panel: The additionality and the impact of guarantees</p> <p>Moderator: Luke Aylward, Senior Director, 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
15:45 - 16:00	<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	<p>Signing Event - BPF & HBOR Memorandum Signing</p>
16:10 - 16:30	<p>Keynote: The situation of SMEs in relation to external financing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hiroyasu Kaburaki, Deputy Group Chief, Credit Insurance Research Group, SME Unit, Japan Finance Corporation (JFC), Japan
16:30 - 16:45	<p>Concluding remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NN, Portugal

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Guy Selherr, President of AECM
16:45 - 17:00	Porto de Honra (a traditional, celebratory reception)