



CONTEST GUIDELINES FOR SMEs AND ENTREPRENEURS WILLING TO GROW

The main goal of the **SMART FINANCE Project** <https://smartfinancesudoe.eu/es/home-es> (SOE1/P2/E0473), approved in first call of the Interreg SUDOE Programme and co-funded at 75% by the European Union (FEDER funds), is creating the **first transnational platform for accessing to and managing financing**. The platform will bring together all the key players of financing, so as to offer the companies funding alternatives, personalised advice, monitoring, and training.

The project promotes business activities and entrepreneurship, the creation of new businesses in the SUDOE space, and the consolidation of the existing ones, thus improving business competitiveness and specialization in value added sectors, as well as creating employment and self-employment.

The Smart Finance project, led by the Official Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Navigation of Oviedo, has 8 partners, 5 from Spain (the Oviedo Chamber of Commerce, the Barcelona Chamber of Commerce, the Agency of Innovation, Financing and Internationalization of Castilla y León, San Jorge University of Zaragoza, and the Council of Chambers of Commerce of the Autonomous Region of Valencia), 1 from France (the Regional Council of Chambers of Commerce of the Aquitania Region), and 2 from Portugal (the National Agency of Innovation and the National Association of Young Businessmen).

The SMART FINANCE partners hold this contest to give visibility to entrepreneur SMEs, established between 2008 and 2016, which are willing to grow, involved in technological innovation, and need financing for a new project.

Entry Requirements

Being located within the SUDOE space. The eligible regions are all the Spanish Autonomous Regions (except Canaries), the Southwest France Regions (Auvergne, Occitanie, and Nouvelle Aquitaine), the continental regions of Portugal, the United Kingdom (Gibraltar), and the Principality of Andorra.

Being a legal entity.

Being up to date with all fiscal and labour obligations.

Not being a large enterprise, as defined by the European Commission (employ more than 250 persons; and an annual turnover exceeding EUR 50 million a year, or an annual balance sheet total exceeding EUR 43 million). Likewise, no external party considered a large enterprise can have a stake of more than 25 % of the capital in the enterprise.



Assessment Criteria

- The business model must be solid, viable, and scalable.
- The evolution of revenues must be positive.
- The business must be established in regional, national, and/or international markets.
- The promoter team and the number of employments created.
- The sales and marketing plan.
- The innovation shown by the enterprise or the entrepreneur in developing their business project in any field, from the business idea to the way of commercialisation, the technological innovation, or the target market.
- The enterprise alliances and partnerships.
- Their social commitment.
- The project they want to develop.
- Their need for funding.
- The demonstration effect of the enterprise.
- The use of the SMART FINANCE tools.

Awards and Acknowledgements

- **First stage (September 2018):** Selection of the Top 10 projects. The 10 shortlisted projects will be offered personal consulting advice to prepare the presentation of their enterprise and the project they seek funding for before the jury.
- **Second stage (October 2018):** Selection of the 3 finalists. The 3 finalists will have access to a financing desk specifically set up for their project, which will take place on the 24th October 2018.

The awards will be presented by Fundación Universidad San Jorge, a SMART FINANCE project beneficiary and organizer of the contest.

Assessment and Candidates

The assessment of candidates will be carried out by external experts in financing, business, and entrepreneurship. They will select the 10 enterprises willing to grow.

The 3 awarded enterprises will be selected by a jury made up of renowned individuals related to economy and business financing.



Documentation

The required documentation includes:

- Fully completed application form (it can be downloaded from the website <http://es.smartfinanceplatform.eu/concurso>)
- Funding Opportunities Report (“Informe de Oportunidades de financiación”), available from the SMART FINANCE platform: <http://es.smartfinanceplatform.eu/informes-gestion> (*sign-up in website required*).
- A 3-minute (maximum) video explaining why financing should be awarded to your enterprise. If photos and video are more than 8 GB in total, send them by WeTransfer to the following email: concurso@smartfinanceplatform.eu
- A business activity report and a summary of the project financing is requested for may be included.
- Optionally (considering it will have a positive impact in the assessment), the **Report of Business Health** (“Informe de salud empresarial”) available on the SMART FINANCE platform may be completed: <http://es.smartfinanceplatform.eu/informes-gestion> (*sign-up in web site required*).

Documentation that will be required to enterprises later on:

- Tax Identification Card of the enterprise and ID card of promoters.
- Spanish Tax Agency’s Form 036 (“Modelo 036”), **or the equivalent in your respective country**. The form submitted by the enterprise to the **Spanish Tax Agency or your national equivalent to register as a company or self-employed/freelance**, either as an individual or as a legal entity.
- Annual financial statements.
- Any other document required for the assessment.

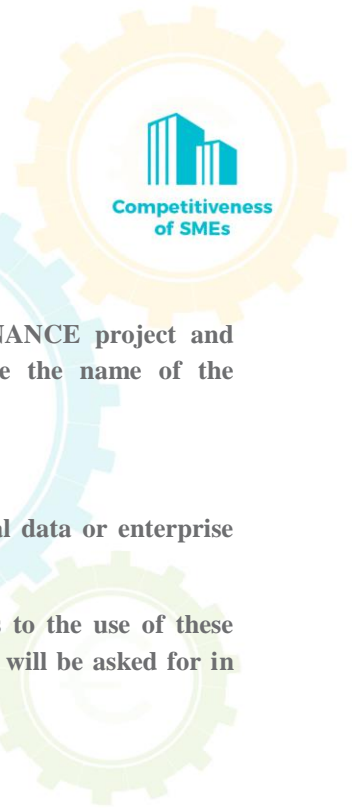
Application Submission

The applications and the required documentation will be sent by email to the following address: concurso@smartfinanceplatform.eu

Application Dates

Applications can be sent from May 2018 until 12th September 2018.

Award Terms and Conditions



- Documents submitted are confidential. However, the SMART FINANCE project and Fundación Universidad San Jorge will be allowed to disseminate the name of the participants, the social media sheet, and the video they submit.
- Participants declare that all submitted data are accurate and true.
- Participants commit to communicating any changes to their personal data or enterprise data.
- Participants consent to be photographed and videotaped, as well as to the use of these photos and videos with promotional purposes in any media. Consent will be asked for in the application form, including GDPR sections.

Contact and Information

Smartfinance Sudoe

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