Special Issue

Small-Business Financing in the 21st Century

Message from the Guest Editor

This Special Issue focuses on the broad topic of "Small-Business Financing" and includes novel research on all aspects of this topic, including but not limited to different types of equity financing, such as angel capital, bootstrap financing, crowd investing, family office. "friends and family" investing, private equity, and venture capital; as well as debt financing, such as bank lending, credit-union lending, crowdlending, government lending, payday lending, and trade credit. Micro-, small-, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) are considered to be the backbone of economies through their contributions to employment and GDP. The World Bank reports that "formal" SMEs account for more than 90% of all firms and more than half of employment around the world. Access to financing, both debt and equity, is one of the most pressing issues faced by MSMEs, especially in times of stress such at the global financial crisis of 2008–2010 and during the recent COVID-19 pandemic.

Guest Editor

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