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NEWSLETTER



WELCOME TO SEEDFUND

A good business idea needs more than enthusiasm. Students and young entrepreneurs must also understand where funding can come from, what each financing option involves and which solution is realistic for their business. SeedFund was created to make this information easier to understand and use.

FROM IDEAS TO ACTION

The Erasmus+ project brings together universities and specialist organisations from France, Greece, Spain, Cyprus, Poland and Bulgaria. The project runs from September 2023 to August 2026 and is coordinated by the University of Strasbourg. Its main goal is to improve education on SME financing and help students and graduates turn business ideas into practical plans.



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UNIVERSITY OF PELLOPONNISE

Neapolis
University
Pafos



PFS
Development

syncnify

WHAT WILL THE PROJECT **PRODUCE**? DURING ITS THREE-YEAR DURATION, SEEDFUND WILL DEVELOP:

SeedFund will develop a practical set of tools and activities to support entrepreneurship and SME financing. These include a guide to EU and alternative funding opportunities, a 12-ECTS online course, an e-learning platform, case studies and educational resources, as well as a European network connecting students, academics and business professionals. The project will also organise fundraising campaigns, national hackathons and events, produce policy recommendations, and conclude with a final European conference, bringing research, education and practical experience together in one programme.

A EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIP

The SeedFund consortium brings together nine organisations from across Europe: the University of Strasbourg, the University of Piraeus Research Center, the University of the Peloponnese, the University of Burgos, Neapolis University Pafos, the University of Economics in Katowice, the University of National and World Economy, SYNCNIFY, and PA Partners for Skills Development. Together, they combine expertise in higher education, entrepreneurship, SME financing, research, training and project support. Each partner contributes experience in finance, economics, entrepreneurship, higher education, digital learning or project communication.

THE FIRST STEP: **UNDERSTANDING THE PROBLEM**

The first phase of SeedFund focused on research into how students, young graduates and small businesses access information about financing. Partners reviewed funding opportunities, carried out interviews and workshops, collected successful examples and identified common information gaps. The findings formed the basis of the SeedFund financing guide and online course.

THE PARTNERSHIP MEETS IN STRASBOURG

The first transnational project meeting was hosted by the University of Strasbourg on 16 and 17 January 2024. Representatives of the partner organisations came together to confirm the implementation plan, discuss responsibilities and establish a common approach to the first research activities. The meeting marked the formal start of a three-year collaboration dedicated to improving SME financing education. Discussions focused on how the partnership could bridge knowledge gaps, challenge misconceptions concerning EU financing and ensure that the project responds to the needs of students, graduates and entrepreneurs.



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WHAT COMES NEXT?

The research findings will support the preparation of the SeedFund guide. They will also help the partners design an online course that responds to the real questions students and future entrepreneurs have about finance. The next newsletter will present the guide, the course structure and the work carried out with students across the partner countries.

EMPOWERING EUROPEAN ENTREPRENEURS AND SMES THROUGH **FINANCING EDUCATION**

FIRST TPM IN STRASBOURG, FRANCE (16-17.01.24)



FOLLOW SEEDFUND



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