



**Sustainable Entrepreneurial Finance for the Post Pandemic Recovery  
Conference  
19<sup>th</sup> May 2022  
Birmingham City University, Birmingham, UK**



**Conference Convenors:**

Birmingham City University in collaboration with the ISBE Entrepreneurial Finance Special Interest Group and supported by Middlesex University GreenFin Research Hub and ESRC Centre for the Understanding of Sustainable Prosperity.

- **Professor Javed Ghulam Hussain**  
Professor of Entrepreneurial Finance  
Birmingham City University, UK
- **Dr Robyn Owen**  
Associate Professor of Entrepreneurial Finance  
CEEDR, Middlesex University Business School
- **Dr Ciarán Mac an Bhaird**  
Associate Professor, Dublin City University  
Special Interests Group  
Institute for Small Business and Entrepreneurship, UK



### **Keynote Speakers:**

- **Dan Van der Schans from British Business Bank discussing the Annual Equity Tracker and State of Small Business Finance.**
- **Professor David Storey - Professor at the Department of Business Management and Economics at University of Sussex.**
- **NatWest Bank – Name and position to be confirmed**
- **Metro Bank - Mr. Rav Bagri – Metro Bank**
- **CEO sustainable tech enterprise at MDX – Gustavo at ShareMyBreak**
- **Birmingham City - name to be confirmed**
- **Professor Beverley Nielsen - Senior fellow, Institute for Design, Economic Acceleration & Sustainability**



**Registration: via Eventbrite: Please find the below link:**

[Entrepreneurial Finance for the Post Pandemic Recovery Tickets, Thu 19 May 2022 at 09:00 | Eventbrite](#)

**Contacts:**

**Professor Javed Hussain**  
[javed.hussain@bcu.ac.uk](mailto:javed.hussain@bcu.ac.uk)  
Birmingham City University  
The Curzon Building  
4 Cardigan Street  
Birmingham, B4 7BD  
**Dr. Robyn Owen**  
Associate Professor of  
Entrepreneurial Finance  
CEEDR & GreenFin,

As we reach (hopefully) the later stages of the global Pandemic, Governments and SMEs are turning their attention to the requirements for successful and sustainable economic recovery, the business models and financing adjustments that will deliver the 'new normal'.

This conference will focus on the new emerging roles of entrepreneurial finance. the external funding supply-side providers that enable SMEs to grow their resources, and businesses (North et al, 2013; BEIS, 2017; Owen et al, 2019).

Remarkably, entrepreneurial finance has performed relatively well during the Pandemic. After initial uncertainties (OECD, 2020; Brown et al, 2020) and concerns that the equity markets might dry-up, the UK government offered a £72bn support through bank loans. Consequently, the business finance markets have performed remarkably well. However, despite record equity investment seen through VC activity in North America and Europe (EIF, 2021; BBB, 2021) concerns remain that key parts of the entrepreneurial finance markets are performing less well (Lerner & Nanda, 2020; BBB, 2021; Owen 2020 & 2021).

In this conference we intend to explore and offer reflections on key areas of the entrepreneurial finance markets that remain problematic to finance and hold potential keys to achieving post-Pandemic sustainable economic recovery.

We welcome presentations around the broader topic of entrepreneurial finance. Here we present examples of key current debates:

- The shortfall in start-up assistance and early-stage seed financing resulting from government concentration of resources during the Pandemic to maintaining existing businesses.
- The persistent long horizon, patient capital funding gaps which lead to sub optimal investment and innovative business impacts on commercial markets.
- Emerging concerns about 'deeptech' and the underfunding of new emerging long-horizon, 'deep pocket' sectors requiring capital infrastructural investment.
- The increasing requirements for impact investment in relation to developing responsible investing to account for sustainability, including climate change, diversity and levelling up society.
- The roles of Universities and HE in financing and supporting entrepreneurial development.
- The role of government programmes in tackling entrepreneurial finance gaps.
- Improved understanding of the entrepreneurial finance ecosystem and the roles of new emerging forms of finance.

*Our aim is to take the best presentations for the paper and develop papers for a suitable high-level journal in the field of entrepreneurial finance.*

**For potential contributors:**

For those interested in contributing a presentation to this one-day conference, please send a 200-word abstracts for a 15–20-minutes presentation to Professor Javed Hussain ([javed.hussain@bcu.ac.uk](mailto:javed.hussain@bcu.ac.uk)) and Dr Robyn Owen ([r.owen@mdx.ac.uk](mailto:r.owen@mdx.ac.uk)).



<p><b>Middlesex University Business School</b></p>	<p><b>Abstract deadline 13<sup>th</sup> May 2022</b></p> <p>For further to attend the event or have any further queries, please contact: Professor Javed Hussain and Dr Robyn Owen (<a href="mailto:r.owen@mdx.ac.uk">r.owen@mdx.ac.uk</a>).</p> <p><b>Call for papers:</b> Finally, the conference offers the opportunity to develop papers for the Special Issues of: Journal of Entrepreneurship in Emerging Economies, impact factor of 3.1. For further information, please contact, Professor Javed Hussain (<a href="mailto:javed.hussain@bcu.ac.uk">javed.hussain@bcu.ac.uk</a>)</p>
<p>The event is supported by:</p> <p><b>Birmingham City University Business School</b> Professor Javed Hussain</p> <p><b>Institute for Small Business and Entrepreneurship</b> Dr. Ciarán Mac an Bhaird, Dublin City University</p> <p><b>CUSP and GreenFin at Middlesex University.</b> Dr Robyn Owen</p>	<p>Birmingham City Business School has a long association with businesses within the region, nationally and internationally. Birmingham City Business School is a part of Birmingham City University, situated in the heart of Birmingham. The Business School is renowned for its entrepreneurial</p> <p>The Institute for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (ISBE) is the UK's largest and most established network for individuals and organisations involved in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enterprise education practice</li> <li>• Small business and entrepreneurship research</li> <li>• Entrepreneurship policy, delivery, and evaluation</li> <li>• Small business support, advice, and development</li> </ul> <p>With over 5000 members, a network of close to 4000 and a strong and relevant board, ISBE is the forefront of development in this sector.</p> <p>The ESRC Centre for the Understanding of Sustainable Prosperity (CUSP), has guiding vision for sustainable prosperity in which people everywhere have the capability to flourish as human beings – within the ecological and resource constraints of a finite planet. A key strand is the financing of innovative green SMEs. Our work has included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investing the role of the UK Green Investment Bank</li> <li>• Ensuring that financing green SME Innovation is on the UK government policy agenda</li> <li>• Contributing to UK and Global debate on the need for early-stage green innovation patient capital</li> </ul> <p><b>GreenFin</b> at Middlesex University specialises in green and sustainable entrepreneurial finance research with the aim of improving data and research for Climate Change and Biodiversity (under current NERC funding).</p>

**For presentation, abstracts are invited by 13<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

Please enrol for the event using the Eventbrite link provided above and should you have any further queries about the event, please contact: Professor Javed Hussain [javed.hussain@bcu.ac.uk](mailto:javed.hussain@bcu.ac.uk) and Dr Robyn Owen ([r.owen@mdx.ac.uk](mailto:r.owen@mdx.ac.uk)).

**There is no conference attendance fee.** Participants are responsible for their own travel and hotel arrangements. However, a list of recommended hotels will be sent out to all participants in due course.