



JUNCKER PLAN: IMPACT



SECTOR FACTSHEET - SMEs



HOW HAS THE JUNCKER PLAN BENEFITED THE SMALL BUSINESS SECTOR?

Nearly all of the 25 million companies in the EU are small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). The EU wants to enable them to thrive on the European and global market. Supporting access to finance for SMEs is therefore one of the key objectives of the Investment Plan for Europe, the Juncker Plan. Many types of financing are available to them under the EFSI, including loans, microfinance and guarantees or equity funding through venture capital funds, business angels or social investors.



1,039,000

Small and medium-sized businesses are benefitting from improved access to finance thanks to EFSI support



EIB Financing:
€10.7 bn

Expected to trigger €65.7 bn
in total investments

The European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) can be used to finance projects in:

- Start-ups
- Micro-businesses
- Scale-ups
- SMEs
- Mid-caps
- Innovators



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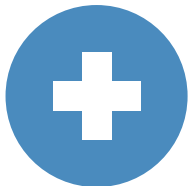
EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY THE JUNCKER PLAN

Social enterprise: THE COLOUR KITCHEN



The Colour Kitchen Foundation is a chain of restaurants and in-house catering that employs people from vulnerable groups of society under a multi-faceted training programme with the objective of reinserting them in the labour market. It currently consists of 4 restaurants and 19 in-house catering locations across the Netherlands, all of which employ people that have difficulties in finding or keeping jobs. To help it expand, Colour Kitchen secured EIF financing backed by the Juncker Plan, and in the next two years, the business will almost double its number of students and employees.

Retinal imaging: OPTOMED



Optomed is a medical technology company that develops and manufactures mobile and easy-to-use retinal imaging devices that are suitable for any clinic for screening of various eye diseases. Its devices are hand-held, have high accuracy and can give results in 10 seconds. The cost for performing an eye examination with Optomed's technology is around 10% of the cost for traditional devices. To get to where it is today, the early-stage company went through a very long development phase, which required financial support. Optomed secured a loan backed by the Juncker Plan, allowing it to develop software solutions, expand its range to global markets and grow the company from 40 to over 100 employees.

Design and manufacturing innovation: LAUREMA



Laurema is a design and manufacturing start-up in Lithuania that specialises in printing stickers and labels on different surfaces. It uses silk-screen printing technology to produce heat transfers – textile labels to decorate or mark clothes. The company uses its innovative design and method to decorate bicycles using a “water slide decal”. To carry out the research and development of this product, Laurema secured a loan backed by the Juncker Plan to invest in new equipment. The founder of the business, Jurate Kasperaviciene, received the ‘Best Lithuanian Female Entrepreneur’ award in March 2018. Laurema currently employs 36 people.