

Press Release**Intesa Sanpaolo Bank and FNGCIMM Sign Guarantee Agreement for SME Loan Refinancing**

Bucharest, May 15, 2026 – Intesa Sanpaolo Bank Romania, together with the National Credit Guarantee Fund for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises-IFN, announces the signing of an agreement for the refinancing of working capital loans granted under Government Emergency Ordinance No. 99/2022 and Government Emergency Ordinance No. 18/2024 for the SME Invest PLUS and SME PLUS Programs.

What this means for SMEs:

- The possibility of refinancing outstanding working capital loans granted under the SME Invest Plus and SME Plus Programs;
- The maximum value of a guarantee is up to 4 million RON, linked to the refinanced balance;
- Loan term: up to 36 months;
- Guarantee of up to 80% of the loan amount, through FNGCIMM;
- No additional collateral required for loans of up to 500,000 RON.

"Intesa Sanpaolo Bank has a long history of supporting Romanian entrepreneurs, and the SME sector remains a strategic priority for us. SMEs are the engine of the Romanian economy: they create jobs, drive innovation, and contribute to the country's development. In an economic context that also brings challenges, we want to be part of the solution for businesspeople, and this guaranteed refinancing facility is one of the tools through which we support them.

Ultimately, such a tool can serve as a bridge between what entrepreneurs have built so far and what they will be able to build in the future", stated **Alessio Cioni, General Manager & CEO, Intesa Sanpaolo Bank Romania.**

"The agreement signed between NGFCSME and Intesa Sanpaolo reaffirms the shared commitment to stand by entrepreneurs, especially in this period marked by volatility and difficult adjustments that directly impact SMEs' access to financing. The refinancing of guaranteed loans strengthens companies' access to funding solutions, and the entrepreneurial environment benefits from greater stability, predictability, and confidence — all essential elements for supporting investments and long-term development," stated **Cătălin Leonte, General Director, NGFCSME.**

Through this initiative, Intesa Sanpaolo Bank is addressing the needs of Romanian entrepreneurs who hold outstanding loans guaranteed by FNGCIMM, offering them the opportunity to maintain the guarantee mechanism and ensure business continuity.

About Intesa Sanpaolo Bank Romania

Intesa Sanpaolo Bank Romania is the local subsidiary of the Italian group Intesa Sanpaolo, one of Europe's largest financial groups. In Romania, the bank offers a full range of services for individuals, SMEs, and corporations, based on long-term relationships and high-quality service, and has 59 branches nationwide. In 2025, Intesa Sanpaolo Bank Romania merged with First Bank, strengthening its position in the local market. The bank is part of the Intesa Sanpaolo Group's International Banks Division (IBD), which serves 7.4 million customers through 883 branches in 12 countries.

About the Intesa Sanpaolo Group

Intesa Sanpaolo, with a loan portfolio of €425 billion and customer financial assets exceeding €1.5 trillion as of the end of December 2025, is Italy's largest banking group, with a significant international presence.

With a global standing in terms of social impact, Intesa Sanpaolo is also committed to reducing its carbon footprint and supporting customers in the transition to a sustainable economy.

The bank's museum network, Gallerie d'Italia, houses its own artistic heritage and cultural projects of recognized value.

About NGCFSME (FNGCIMM SA-IFN)

NGCFSME is a non-banking financial institution with risk capital, established to facilitate SMEs' access to financing by providing guarantees for loans contracted from commercial banks or other funding sources.

NGCFSME provides guarantees from its own resources, from managed funds, or through government programs designed to support economic recovery.

NGCFSME is a company wholly owned by the Romanian state, ensuring nationwide territorial coverage and operating in accordance with European rules and principles.

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