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## РИСКИ И КАПИТАЛЬНЫЕ ЗАТРАТЫ: ВЛИЯНИЕ ДЖЕРЕМИ-ФОНДА НА СОЗДАНИЕ КАПИТАЛА МАЛЫХ ПРЕДПРИЯТИЙ

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#### Аннотация

Анализируются меры, предпринимаемые ДЖЕРЕМИ-фондом в отношении микро- и малых предприятий, способствующие созданию собственного капитала, а также формированию возможностей снижения финансовых рисков с помощью гарантий региональных институтов. Рассматриваются предприятия, работающие с ДЖЕРЕМИ-фондом.

Ключевые слова: капитальные затраты, целевая структура капитала, микро- и малые предприятия

С точки зрения финансовых перспектив целью управления любым предприятием является увеличение его стоимости. Обычно это достигается посредством деятельности, приводящей к положительным значениям показателя чистой приведенной стоимости (NPV):

$$NPV = \sum_{t=0}^{n} \frac{CF_t}{(1+CC)^t}.$$
 (1)

Здесь *CF* – свободный денежный поток предприятия; *CC* – ставка дисконтирования, с помощью которой производится оценка затрат капитала на осуществление деятельности предприятия (независимо от того, являются ли эти затраты первоначальными или последующими). Чаще всего предприятие финансируется за счет различных источников, и, следовательно, ставка дисконтирования *CC* рассчитывается

как средневзвешенная величина цены капитала, поступающего из этих источников:

$$CC = \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i \cdot k_i, \qquad (2)$$

где  $w_i$  – доля капитала, поступающего из источника i;  $k_i$  – стоимость капитала, поступающего из источника i.

Чаще всего формула (1) используется в виде

$$CC = w_{e_i} \cdot k_{e_i} + w_{d_i} \cdot k_{d_i} \cdot (1 - T), \qquad (3)$$

где  $w_{e_i} = \frac{E_i}{E+D}$  – доля собственного капитала из источника *i*; *E* – соб-

ственный капитал; D – заемный капитал;  $w_{d_r} = \frac{D_i}{E+D}$  – доля (удель-

ный вес) заемного капитала, поступающего из источника i;  $k_{e_i}$  – цена собственного капитала из источника i;  $k_{d_i}$  – цена заемного капитала из источника i; T – действующая ставка налога на предприятие.

С обсуждаемой проблемой связана также формула, известная как уравнение Хамады:

$$\beta_L = \beta_U \left[ 1 + \left( 1 - T_C \right) \cdot \frac{D}{E} \right], \tag{4}$$

где  $\beta_U$  – бета-коэффициент доли предприятий, не имеющих непогашенной задолженности;  $\beta_L$  – бета-коэффициент доли предприятий, имеющих непогашенную задолженность;  $T_c$  – действующая ставка налога, выплачиваемая предприятием.

Формула (4) показывает зависимость между уровнем задолженности и размером собственного капитала, а значит, и увеличением капитальных затрат на финансирование предприятия. Согласно общему правилу чем больше задолженность предприятия, тем выше финансовый риск этого бизнеса, и, следовательно, тем больше как собственный капитал, так и задолженность, которые увеличиваются с ростом долга. Это явление относится к классу так называемых проблем «долгового потенциала», характерных для фирм с очень высокой задол-

женностью, которые не могут рассчитывать на дальнейшее увеличение своего долга (в отличие от собственного капитала), поскольку уровень финансового риска влияет на рост финансирования предприятия и, соответственно, на уровень *СС*. А при росте стоимости предприятия это приводит к невозможности его дальнейшего эффективного развития.

ДЖЕРЕМИ-фонд (Совместный европейский фонд средств для микро-, малых и средних предприятий – Joint European Resources for Micro-to-Medium Enterprises) увеличил возможности финансирования микро- и малых предприятий не только для того, чтобы они брали кредиты, но и чтобы увеличивали собственный капитал. Фонд был создан Европейской комиссией для поддержки развития предприятий и инноваций, а также для расширения доступа микро-, малых и средних предприятий к внешнему финансированию. Такова идея любого структурного фонда. Как фонд, цель которого – участие в капитале, ДЖЕРЕМИ-фонд призван обеспечивать поддержку развития структур первоначального инвестирования и венчурного капитала и расширять доступность микрокредитов для малых и средних предприятий, имеющих ограниченный доступ к коммерческим кредитам.

**Пример 1.** Предприниматель владеет суммой А. Если у него есть некое производство, требующее финансирования с помощью займа, он имеет возможность получения ссуды в размере 2А (при условии обеспечения этой ссуды собственным капиталом).

**Пример 2.** Предприниматель владеет суммой А. Если он может получить ссуду, равную собственному капиталу А, от ДЖЕРЕМИ-фонда на принципах первоначального инвестирования или венчурного капитала, у него в распоряжении будет 50% + 1 доля (голос) и, следовательно, он будет иметь контроль над фирмой. Если у него есть некое производство, требующее финансирования с помощью займа, он имеет возможность получения ссуды в размере 4А (при условии обеспечения этой ссуды собственным капиталом).

Таким образом, благодаря инициативе ДЖЕРЕМИ-фонда по поддержке малых и средних предприятий у них появилась возможность получения средств в большем объеме.

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### ЦЕНА ЗАДОЛЖЕННОСТИ

Фирмы нуждаются в заемных средствах как на начальном этапе, так и в процессе своего развития. Как известно, стоимость долга для малого предприятия больше, чем для аналогичного предприятия большего размера в силу специфики малого бизнеса, а вовсе не по причине предвзятости банковского сектора в отношении малых предприятий. Прежде всего, малое предприятие с точки зрения финансовых перспектив отличается от крупного, которое контролирует денежные средства и получает прибыль в случае удачного течения дел или несет потери в случае неудач. На малом предприятии именно его хозяин несет ответственность за все потери. Более того, его ответственность зачастую неограниченна. Но если предприятие прибыльно, он является главным бенефициарием. Денежные средства (кредиты) также находятся под его контролем. Однако по мере увеличения предприятия ответственность за кредиты, прибыль и ошибки ложится на все большее количество участников.

Стоимость задолженности обычно зависит от ситуации на рынке краткосрочных кредитов. Цена капитала предприятия за определенный период зависит, помимо прочего, от конъюнктуры рынка. Именно процентной ставкой банка, предоставляющего финансирование, определяется доступность кредита предприятию. Межбанковский рынок сам напрямую зависит от Центрального банка, поскольку Министерство финансов влияет на рынок долгосрочных казначейских обязательств. Рынок ссудного капитала находится под влиянием финансовой политики государства и политики управления государственным долгом. Другим фактором, определяющим рынок ссудного капитала, является состояние внешнего валютного рынка. Значительные изменения валютных курсов и ожидания обесценивания или удорожания валюты могут значительно повлиять на структуру и размер спроса на кредиты и, соответственно, на уровень доступной процентной ставки и рыночную ликвидность предприятия. Стоимость капитала, как правило, не зависит от предприятия. Это особенно верно в отношении малых и средних предприятий, которые не являются основными клиентами банков и поэтому вряд ли могут оказывать давление на кредиторов с целью снижения долговой нагрузки.



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Гарантии займа для малых предприятий существенно отличаются от гарантий для крупных фирм. В результате, помимо прочего, формирование собственного капитала малых предприятий, как и его перспективное развитие, осуществляются иным образом.

Еще одним препятствием для деятельности малых предприятий является их ограниченный доступ на рынок капитала. Малому предприятию трудно получить кредит независимо от вида источника займа, будь то банк или другой финансовый институт. Ограниченные возможности большинства малых предприятий в отношении цен на их продукцию и услуги не позволяют им переложить возросшую стоимость заемных средств на покупателя [1].

Собственник малого предприятия чаще всего представляет собой весь управленческий персонал или его большую часть. Поэтому конфликты между собственником и управленческим персоналом исключены, что на руку кредитору. К сожалению, подобного рода конфликты случаются чаще, чем можно было бы предположить, и возникают в отношениях между владельцем и наемными работниками. Поскольку владелец малого предприятия берет на себя больший риск, чем владелец крупного предприятия, конфликт может возникнуть между владельцем предприятия и донорами капитала. Если предприятие финансируется приятелями владельца, то агентские издержки могут быть невысокими и, следовательно, стоимость кредита в целом тоже невысока. Если кредиторы не знакомы с владельцем малого предприятия, то соотношение размера кредита и стоимости сбора информации о нем и его предприятии, а также текущий мониторинг его деятельности гораздо выше, чем это соотношение для предприятия, берущего больший капитал.

Финансовые институты, имеющие опыт работы с владельцами малых предприятий, считают их деятельность более рискованной, а их самих излишне оптимистичными в отношении своих возможностей перекладывания затрат, связанных с рисками, на реципиентов капитала.

Стоимость сбора информации также связана с агентскими издержками. Здесь наблюдается двойная информационная асимметрия. С одной стороны, владелец малого предприятия в большей степени знаком со своим предприятием, чем потенциальные доноры капитала [2]. Информационная асимметрия в этом случае вызывает гораздо бо-

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лее серьезные проблемы, чем в случае с крупными предприятиями, поскольку

- относительные фиксированные издержки, связанные со сбором информации о сделках малых предприятий с донорами капитала, выше по сравнению с информацией о сделках крупных предприятий ввиду более крупных размеров их сделок;
- число повторяющихся транзакций гораздо меньше;
- > сбор финансовой информации о малых предприятиях несколько затруднен, так как рынок специалистов в этой области еще мало развит;
- у малых предприятий недостаточно инструментов для подтверждения подлинности своей информации;
- > информация, представляемая малыми предприятиями, низкого качества, отсутствуют общие стандарты ее представления, поскольку ни законодательно, ни институционально малые предприятия не обязаны собирать и обрабатывать всю информацию, в которой могут быть заинтересованы доноры капитала, в утвержденном формате. Даже при попытках стандартизации этого процесса никто не застрахован от возможной недостоверности информации ввиду недостаточной компетентности управленческого персонала малых предприятий.

С другой стороны, доноры капитала из учрежденных структур в целом располагают большей статистической информацией о малых предприятиях по сравнению с отдельным предпринимателем, ищущим источник финансирования своего бизнеса. Как показывают данные, представители малого бизнеса чаще, чем представители крупного бизнеса того же профиля, испытывают трудности, связанные с ведением своего дела. Более того, они не боятся рисковать и при этом крайне оптимистичны [3]. В условиях такой информационной асимметрии финансовые институты в целях компенсации дополнительного риска, связанного с кредитованием малых предприятий, повышают стоимость капитала.

Вероятность возникновения финансовых проблем для малых предприятий тем выше, чем ниже компетентность их управленческого персонала. Соответственно, цена финансовых проблем также увеличивается, поскольку относительные издержки, которые несут малые предпри-

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ятия из-за несовершенства рынка, больше. Кроме того, из-за несовершенства механизмов ограниченной ответственности по обязательствам малого предприятия цена решения финансовых проблем перекладывается на личное имущество собственника. Чтобы избежать этой опасности, собственник прибегает, например, к уменьшению доли заемного капитала. Это объясняет наблюдаемую низкую задолженность [2].

Таким образом, формулу процентной ставки по кредиту для малого предприятия можно представить в следующем виде: стоимость займа для малого и среднего предприятий включает стоимость займа для крупного предприятия плюс премия за риск, плюс (минус) вознаграждение за агентские издержки и плюс вознаграждение за информационную асимметрию. То есть как результат появления на рынке ссудного капитала стоимость займа для крупного предприятия должна быть скорректирована на величину премий за риск кредитования малого бизнеса, агентские издержки и информационную асимметрию, связанную с этим.

По инициативе ДЖЕРЕМИ-фонда было заявлено, что плата за займы для малых и средних предприятий не включает в себя дополнительную добавочную стоимость, за исключением, возможно, операций по привлечению сторонних ресурсов. Но не только это. Поскольку инициатива ДЖЕРЕМИ-фонда является межрегиональной, а сам фонд – гарантийным фондом, постольку в сферу его полномочий входит большее количество предприятий, чем в сферу полномочий относительно малых локальных гарантийных фондов. Поэтому в восприятии кредиторов снижение рисков в этом случае гораздо большее, чем в случае региональных гарантий\*, что приводит к снижению добавочной стоимости к цене кредита и, следовательно, конечной цены капитала, по которой выдается заем, так же как и СС финансирования малого и среднего бизнеса. В результате рентабельность малых и средних предприятий, воспользовавшихся преимуществами финансирования посредством ДЖЕРЕМИ-фонда, возрастает.

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<sup>\*</sup> Следует отметить, что региональные фонды частично подвержены тому же риску, что и финансируемые ими малые и средние предприятия. В случае инициативы ДЖЕРЕМИ-фонда ситуация иная. Региональные риски, будучи частью рисков, связанных с малым и средним бизнесом, не так уж важны. Это еще один параметр, снижающий риски и увеличивающий рентабельность и эффективность малого и среднего бизнеса региона.

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## ФОРМИРОВАНИЕ СТРУКТУРЫ КАПИТАЛА ПРЕДПРИЯТИЙ

Финансовая цель предпринимательской деятельности - увеличение состояния собственника реализуется, помимо прочего, путем увеличения стоимости самого предприятия. Структура капитала оказывает влияние на средневзвешенный уровень цены капитала и, таким образом, на эффективность инвестиционных проектов, осуществляемых предприятием. Чем ниже стоимость капитала предприятия, тем выше стоимость предприятия. Структура капитала предприятия является своего рода комбинацией его внешнего и собственного капиталов. Структура капитала важна по двум соображениям: во-первых, стоимость займа ниже, чем стоимость собственного капитала; во-вторых чем больше доля заемного капитала в структуре капитала предприятия, тем выше плата, требуемая донорами капитала, поскольку для них предприятие и его деятельность оказываются связанными большими рисками. Таким образом, чем больше доля заемного капитала в структуре капитала предприятия, тем ниже средневзвешенная стоимость капитала и, следовательно, тем выше стоимость предприятия.

Для нейтрализации этих явлений проводится поиск оптимальной структуры капитала предприятия. Одним из методов определения целевой структуры капитала является так называемый традиционный подход. Он основан на предположении, что все факторы, влияющие на структуру капитала или определяемые ею, должны быть результатом намерений максимизировать стоимость предприятия. Слишком низкая доля заемного капитала отрицательно влияет на стоимость капитала предприятия, поскольку дополнительная выгода, связанная с использованием займов, теряется (дополнительная выгода является результатом снижения налогообложения). Но с другой стороны, с увеличением задолженности стоимость предприятия сначала также увеличением задолженности стоимость предприятия сначала также импощью заемных средств превращаются в недостатки (увеличившийся риск для акционеров и кредиторов заставляет их повышать цену капитала), что приводит к снижению стоимости предприятия.

В рамках этого подхода предполагается, что по мере роста соотношения D/E(D - целевая структура капитала, E - оптимальная структу-

ра капитала) растет стоимость собственного и заемного капиталов, что приводит к изменению средневзвешенной цены капитала. На начальной стадии роста соотношения D/E дисконтная ставка капитала CC уменьшается, а потом увеличивается. Точка минимального значения CC соответствует максимальной стоимости предприятия [4].

Подобные выводы сделаны в рамках статической теории структуры капитала. Они базируются на тех же предпосылках, что и налого-

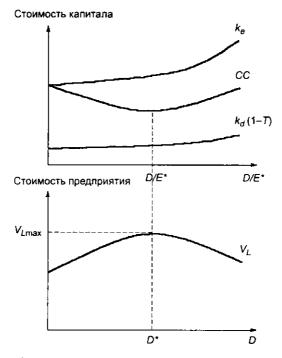


Рис. 1. Целевая/оптимальная структура капитала – подход с учетом риска банкротства

D/E – задолженность/собственность (Debt/Equity):  $k_e$  – стоимость акционерного капитала:  $k_d$  – стоимость заемного капитала; CC – средняя цена капитала; V – стоимость предприятия: T – действующая ставка налога;  $V_{l,max}$  – максимальная стоимость предприятия

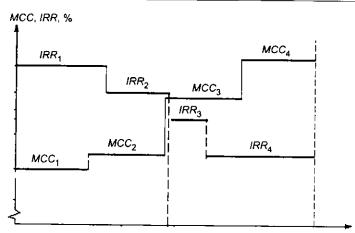
(CM.: Ross S.A., Westerfield R.W., Jordan B.D. Finanse przedsiębiorstw. – Kraków: DW ABC. 1999)

вая модель Модильяни – Миллера, за исключением случая банкротства. Расходы, связанные с делами о банкротстве, понимаются как некоторые финансовые расходы, возникающие в связи с риском банкротства предприятия. В соответствии со статической теорией предполагается, что предприятие должно увеличивать финансирование за счет заемных средств до того момента, пока облагаемая налогом прибыль, полученная в результате использования заемных средств, не будет равняться финансовым расходам, возникающим в связи с риском банкротства предприятия. Наименование этого подхода обусловлено тем, что предприниматель не меняет свои активы и вид деловой активности, а только анализирует изменения в использовании займов. Согласно этому подходу, стоимость капитала вначале уменьшается благодаря преимуществам использования заемных средств, а затем при превышении оптимального уровня задолженности начинает увеличиваться из-за роста расходов, связанных с делами о банкротстве. Стоимость предприятия, финансируемого за счет заемных средств, в соответствии со статической теорией показана на рис. 1.

Инициатива ДЖЕРЕМИ-фонда приводит к появлению целевых/оптимальных структур капиталов. Во-первых, в результате снижения расходов, связанных с делами о банкротстве, вследствие действия механизма гарантий, т.е. благодаря большему снижению рисков, чем в случае обычных локальных фондов, кредитоемкость малого и среднего бизнеса растет. Во-вторых, кривая  $V_L$  будет находиться выше кривой *СС*, поскольку благодаря работе с межрегиональным фондом уменьшается стоимость как собственного, так и заемного капитала, а снижение рисков позволяет снизить норму прибыли с капитала.

## ОПТИМАЛЬНЫЙ ИНВЕСТИЦИОННЫЙ БЮДЖЕТ ПРЕДПРИЯТИЯ

При внешнем финансировании предприятий уровень капитальных затрат меняется при переходе от одного источника, который уже исчерпан, к другому. Предприниматель должен вначале использовать самые дешевые источники и только потом переходить к более дорогим. Изменение средневзвешенных капитальных затрат представлено



Используемый капитал

L

Рис. 2. Оптимальный бюджет без участия ДЖЕРЕМИ-фонда

на рис, 2, 3 в виде кривой, известной как кривая предельных капитальных затрат. Эта кривая отражает соотношение предельных капитальных затрат и уровня капитала, необходимого для реализации инвести-

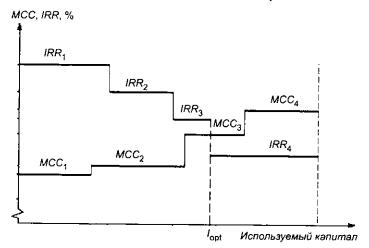


Рис. 3. Оптимальный бюджет при участии ДЖЕРЕМИ-фонда

ционных мероприятий, проводимых предприятием. Для осуществления этих мероприятий используются самые дешевые займы (при условии сохранения оптимального соотношения внешнего и собственного капиталов) с последующим переходом к более дорогим, т.е. от займов с самой низкой величиной предельных капитальных затрат (*MMC*) переходят к займам с более высокой величиной предельных капитальных затрат.

Кривая инвестиционных возможностей малого или среднего предприятия (см. рис. 2, 3), в свою очередь, показывает наиболее эффективные возможности, доступные малому или среднему предприятию – от самых лучших (с самой высокой внутренней нормой рентабельности – *IRR*) до самых плохих (с самой низкой *IRR*).

Оптимальный инвестиционный бюджет представляет собой капитал предприятия, предназначенный для использования в качестве инвестиций и получающийся при равенстве предельных капитальных затрат предельным инвестиционным возможностям. Наличие оптимального инвестиционного бюджета является необходимым условием максимизации стоимости предприятия. Графически оптимальный инвестиционный баланс, на наш взгляд, отражается пересечением кривой предельных капитальных затрат и кривой инвестиционных возможностей. Пересечение кривой предельных капитальный инвестиционный бюджет  $I_{opt}$ .

Возможности, предоставляемые инициативой ДЖЕРЕМИ-фонда по снижению рисков и обеспечению большей доступности дешевых средств для пополнения собственного капитала и получения займов, меняют положение малых и средних предприятий, – как показано на рис. 3, кривая *MCC* сместилась вниз. В результате может быть реализовано большее число проектов или с большим объемом ресурсов (а возможно, и просто один крупный), поскольку они оказываются более рентабельными. Оптимальный инвестиционный бюджет увеличится при условии работы в рамках этой инициативы, что и составит его добавочную стоимость.

#### Г. Михальски

Данный пример показывает, почему не следует полагать, что алгоритм оценки недостатка финансовых средств у малых и средних предприятий точен. На рисунке 3 видно, что оптимальный инвестиционный бюджет до работы в рамках инициативы ДЖЕРЕМИ-фонда был меньше, из чего следует, что малые и средние предприятия используют меньше денежных средств на реализацию проектов. Существует финансовая брешь, но ее существование объясняется более высокой ценой капитала, а не физическим недостатком денег (как правило, деньги есть, но они дорогие, что и ограничивает возможность их использования для реализации проектов).

\* \* \*

С точки зрения только финансовых результатов инициатива ДЖЕРЕМИ-фонда кажется удачной и благоприятно влияющей на деятельность микро- и малых предприятий. Она особенно удачна в плане создания предприятиями собственного капитала (а именно, в плане первоначального инвестирования, создания венчурного капитала), а также в отношении теоретических возможностей снижения финансовых рисков с помощью гарантий региональных институтов (менее подверженных потенциальным рискам того региона, где функционируют микропредприятия, работающие с фондом).

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matical apparatus allows obtaining the independent estimates of how effectively an entity operates.

- **Psarev, V.I., Ye.A. Vavilin, A.A. Pritula and Ye.A. Kazakevich.** The paper analyses the financial, economic and legal approaches to the pilot project on better crediting the owners of private farms in the regions of the Siberian Federal District and it presents the output obtained by the implementation of the project. The paper describes the lending algorithms and mechanisms where crediting is partially realized by local authorities and enterprises, and the mechanisms of public insurance for the commercial lending institutions engaged in financing the pilot project.
- **Ferber, G. and K. Baranova.** The paper shows how the executive federalism in Germany has transformed into the federalism of division of powers between the federal center and land governments in the result of the reform of intergovernmental fiscal relations. The paper presents a comparative analysis of the mechanisms provided financial equalization of lands and municipalities and existed in the preand after-reform periods. The paper shows the reasons of the German public and lands' debts. The authors conclude that the reform of intergovernmental fiscal relations may further go in the way of strengthening positions of the federal center in all spheres.
- Michalsky, G. The paper analyses how the JEREMIE fund initiative is profitable and enhances the functioning of micro and small enterprises engaged in JEREMIE fund. Particularly profitable are aspects connected with providing these enterprises with equity capital (i.e. Business Angels, Venture Capital) as well as with the theoretical possibilities connected with reducing the financial risk by over regional institution guarantees.



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# Risks and capital costs: how JEREMIE fund initiative helps to create SME capital, Journal Region: Economics and Sociology (English version)

Grzegorz Michalski<sup>1</sup>

## Abstract

From financial perspective, the JEREMIE fund initiative is profitable and enhances the functioning of micro and small enterprises. Particularily profitable are aspects connected with providing these enterprises with equity capital (i.e. Business Angels, Venture Capital) as well as with the theoretical possibilities connected with reducing the financial risk by over regional institution guarantees (less vulnerable to potential risks occurring in the native region of the micro enterprises engaged in JEREMIE).

## Keywords

capital cost, target capital structure, micro and small enterprises

## 1. Inroduction

From financial perspective, the aim of managing an enterprise is to create its value. It is usually achieved by realized undertakings characterized by positive NPV:

$$NPV = \sum_{t=0}^{n} \frac{CF_t}{\left(1 + CC\right)^t}$$

In the numerator on the right side of the equation above, there are free cash flow CF realized by the undertaking, while in the denominator on the right side of the equation above, the formula contains the discount rate CC. It stands for the cost of the capital engaged in the realization of the undertaking assessed (regardless of whether it is the first undertaking resulting from the start of the business or a subsequent one – currently continued). Most frequently, an enterprise is financed by the capital coming from a lot of different sources and therefore CC is determined as a weighed mean of the cost rates of the capitals comin from these sources:

$$CC = \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i \times k_i,\tag{1}$$

where:  $w_i$  = share of capital coming from source *i*,  $k_i$  = cost of capital coming from source *i*, CC = average weighed capital cost.

Most frequently used form of this formula is:  $CC = w_{e_i} \times k_{e_i} + w_{d_i} \times k_{d_i} \times (1-T)$ 

(2)

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Where:  $w_{e_i} = \frac{E_i}{E+D} = a$  share (weight of share) of equity capital from source *i*, *E* – equity capital, D - debt,  $w_{d_i} = \frac{D_i}{E+D} = a$  share (weight of share) of capital coming from *i* source of debt,  $k_{e_i} = \text{equity}$  capital cost rate coming from source *i*,  $k_{d_i} = \text{cost}$  rate of capital coming from *i* debt source, T = effective enterprise tax rate.

The undermentioned formula (called Hamada's equation) is also connected with the problem discussed:

$$\beta_L = \beta_U \left[ 1 + \left( 1 - T_C \right) \times \frac{D}{E} \right]$$
<sup>(3)</sup>

where:  $\beta_U$  = beta coefficient of shares for an enterprise with no outstanding debts,  $\beta_L$  = beta coefficient of shares for an indebted enterprise,  $T_c$  = effective tax rate paid by an enterprise.

It shows the relation between a debt level and an increase in the equity capital cost rate, and consequently, the increase in enterprise financing capital cost.

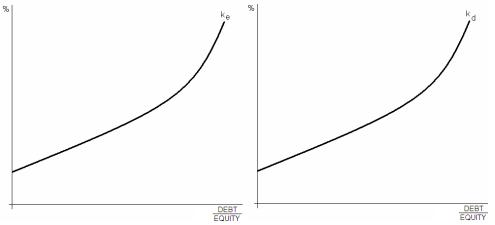


Figure 1. Debt level influence on the debt cost rates. Source: own study.

The general rule says: the higher enterprise debt is, the higher is a financial risk linked to this business, and consequently, both equity capital cost rates and debt cost rates are higher and higher together with increased debt. Hence, there is a problem of so called "debt capacity". It is a phenomenon of highly indebted firm, which cannot count on further raising of its debt level (in comparison with equity capital), because the financial risk level influences the hight of enterprise financing capital cost rates, and then on the CC level, what makes effective (giving the enterprise value growth) business activity impossible.

JEREMIE (*Joint European Resources for Micro-to-medium Enterprises*), increases the financial potential of micro and small enterprises not only as long as debt is concerned, but the equity capital as well. The European Comission has created the JEREMIE instrument to promote enterprise, innovations and to increase the access to outside financing for micro, small and medium enterprises. It is a common initiative of structural funds. As a 'Holding Fund'', JEREMIE enables supporting the development of Business Angels (BA), Venture

Capital (VC), and increasing the availability of microcredits designed for SME with limited access to commercial credits.

**Example 1**: Entrepeneur possesses sum A. If he has the makings for financing with the use of loan funds, he is able to obtain (assuming that the capital owned by him is to secure a loan) 2A for his enterprise.

**Example 2:** Entrepeneur possesses sum A. If he can obtain equity capital thanks to JEREMIE initiative (on the principle VC or BA) equal to sum A (so that he has still 50% + 1 shares/votes in order to keep control over the firm) and if he has the makings for financing with the use of loan funds, he is able to obtain (assuming that the capital owned by him is to secure a loan) 4A for his enterprise.

We received a considerable increase in the development opportunities of SME qualified for such a suport, mainly thanks to the participation of equity capital providing instruments in JEREMIE initiative.

## 2. Debt cost rate

With the aim of starting the business activity, as well as its continuation, firms need debt. It has been observed that the debt cost for small enterprises is higher than its counterpart in case of the big ones. The reasons arise from the specific features of small firms. Higher debt cost does not come from irrational prejudices of the small enterprises banking sector entities.

First of all, from the financial perspective, small firm differs from the big one in who controls money and who benefits from or loose in case of success or defeat of the firm<sup>2</sup>. In a small enterprise, it is the owner to be held responsible for all the losses. What is more, the responsibility is most often unlimited. But, he is also the main beneficiary in case of the success. Similarly, money is controled by the owner of a small firm. Along with the growth of the firm, these three elements (money control, responsibility for the mistakes and profits) are devided among more and more participants.

Debt cost offered to the enterprises is generally dependent on the money market situation.

Capital price for an enterprise depends on the market conditions (and other effects) in a period given. It is an interest rate in relation to which a bank being the provider of an outside financing sets the cost of credit available for the firm. Interbank market finds itself in a direct influence of the Central Bank while the Ministry of Finance influences on the market of Treasury bonds. Money market is effected by the monetary policy and national public debt management. Another element which exerts its impact on the money market is a external exchange market. Big changes in the exchange rate and strong expectations of a depreciation or appreciation may significantly influence on structure and size of the demand on money market, and consequently on the interest rate levels and market liquidity value available for the enterprise. The capital cost is as a rule, independent of enterprises. Specially, it is true in case of small and medium firms, which are not the key clients for banks, and therefore hardly have a possibility to put pressure on their creditors in order to lower the financing-linked charges.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Michalski G., *Płynność finansowa w małych i średnich przedsiębiorstwach*, WN PWN, Warszawa 2005, s. 9-14.

A guarantee of an appropriate enterprise capital supply in a small firm takes place in completely different conditions than in case of big firms. It results, among others, from the fact that the equity capital supply in a small enterprise is completely different, as well as its increase perspectives.

Another handicap for a small firm is its limited access to the capital market. It is also very difficult to take out debt, no matter whether it comes from banks or other sources. Limited influence on own goods and services prices, for most small and medium enterprises causes the lack of possibility of offloading higher costs of this financing onto purchasers<sup>3</sup>.

Small enterprise owner constitutes most often the whole, or at least the main part of enterprise management staff. Due to this fact, potential conflicts of agencies are eliminated: owners – management staff. It should be much to debt suppliers delight. Unfortunately, it is possible that the conflicts of agencies, sometimes even much stronger than expected, will appear in other relations: owner (or his family) – employees (outside the family). Additionally, the owner takes much more of a risk, than his counter parts in big enterprises. Lastly, this conflict may appear on the line: firm owner – capital donors. If a small enterprise is financed by its friends' capital, the agencies conflicts costs are lower, and therefore the financing cost as a whole as well. If capital donors barely know the owner, the relative costs of the gathering of information about him, his firm and monitoring his current situation and actions are much higher than in case of big enterprises obtaining higher capital amounts.

Financial institutions, knowing a statistical small entrepreneur usually find him more risky and irrationally optimistic so think they should offload the avarage risk related costs connected with such a small firm onto capital recipient.

Information gathering costs are also linked to the agencies cost. There is a double information asymmetry here. Firstly, small firm owner is much better informed about his specific enterprise situation than potential capital donors<sup>4</sup>. Information asymmetry of this kind causes much more serious problems than in case of big enterprises because:

• fixed cost of the gathering of information about transactions concerning small enteprises is for capital donors, relatively higher than the fixed cost connected with big transactions typical for bigger enterprises,

• in case of small enterprises, capital donors have to cope with smaller number of repeatable transactions,

• lower possibilities of instructing secialist agencies to gather financial information about small enterprises, implied by the fact that market such services market is also poorly developed,

• small firms have less tools allowing them to authenticate information generated,

• the quality of information coming from small firms is low and nonstandardized since it is very often that small firms are neither legally nor institutionally obliged to gather and process all information which may be of capital donor's interest in a determined form and even if they tried to adjust to his requirements, management staff incompleteness results in potential mistakes.

Secondly, institutional capital donors most often possess much wider statistical information about small firms in general than an entrepreneur searching for some sources to finance his business activity. The data show that small entrepreneurs more often than the big ones in the same business, experience the difficulties connected with carrying out their responsibilities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> D. van der Wijst, *Financial Structure in Small Business: Theory, Tests and Applications*, Lecture Notes in Economics and Mathematical Systems, vol. 320, Springer-Verlag, Berlin Heidelberg 1989, s. 16-26.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> J.S. Ang, *Small business Uniqueness and the Theory of Financial Management*, Journal of Small Business Finance, 1991 nr 1(1), s. 5-7.

Moreover, they are not afraid of taking the risk but reach a very high optimism level at the same time<sup>5</sup>. From such a perspective of the information asymmetry, financial institutions wanting to recompensate additional risk connected with providing small enterprises with capital, raises the capital cost.

Together with the decrease in small enterprise managment staff competency, the probabilisty of financial problems is increased. Financial problems costs also increases because of the fact that small enterprises experience higher costs of market imperfection and relatively higher charges resulting from it.

In addition, the lack of effective limited responsibility for small enterprise's obligations, becomes the cause of offloading high financial problems cost to the personal wealth of owner. Such dangers will force the small enterprise owner to protect himself against increased financial problems and use e.g. smaller leverage. It explains low debt levels which have been observed<sup>6</sup>.

Therefore, we may present the interest rate for debt available for a small enterprise in a following way:

Cost of debt	•	Cost		SME		Agency		Assymetry
	=	of debt	+	risk	-/+	costs	+	information
SME		for large firm		premium		premium	premium	

As we can see, debt cost for a big enterprise (as a result of the relations at money market) should be increased by higher risk bonus characteristic for small firms and modified because of agencies costs' influence and information asymptry.

It is laid open to the charge that within the debt financing, the JEREMIE initiative does not bring additional added value, maybe except for outsourcing functions. However, it is not indeed the case. JEREMIE is an over regional initiative and, if being in fact a guarantee fund is examined as much bigger entity than relatively small local guarantee fund, so the risk reduction degree perceived by creditors will be higher than in case of regional guarantees<sup>7</sup>, what results in a lower risk bonus added to debt cost, and consequently, the final debt cost rate, at which the loan is given, will be lower as well as the CC financing SME. It will result in higher efficacy of SME taking advantage of the offer available due to JEREMIE.

# 3. SME financing capital target structure

The financial aim of an enterprise activity is to create the wealth of its owners. This idea is realized, among others by the creation of enterprise value. Enterprise financing capital structure, exerts an impact on the avarage weighed enterprise capital cost rate level and this way on the efficacy level of investment projects realized by the firm. The lower is enterprise capital cost, the higher is enterprise value. Capital structure is a kind of combination of external and equity capital maintained by the enterprise. Capital structure is important for two reasons:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> D. Meza, *The Borrower's Curse: Optimism, Finance and Entrepreneurship*, Economic Journal, 1996 nr 106(435), s. 375-386.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> J.S. Ang, *Small* ..., s. 6-8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> It is worth noticing that regional funds are partly exposed to the same risk as SME supported by them. In the JEREMIE initiative is another case – regional risk, being a part of SME business risk is not so important. It is another parameter lowering risk and increasing SME efficacy in the region.

- a) Debt cost is lower than the equity capital cost. That means if there were no <u>reason b</u>), the following sentence would be true: "the bigger is a share of debt in enterprise capital structure, the lower is average weighed capital cost, and therefore: the higher is enterprise value".
- b) The higher is debt share in the capital structure, the higher is the rate of return required by capital donors because they find the enterprise and its activity more risky. If there were no reason a), the following sentence would be true: ",the higher is debt share in enterprise capital structure, the lower is avarage weighed capital cost, and consequently the higher is enterprise value".

The necessity of offseting these two reasons leeds to the serach of optimal capital structure.

One of the methods of determining the target capital structure is so called traditional approach. This method is based on the assumption that all the factors influencing or resulting from capital structure should result from aspiring to maximize the enterprise value. Too low share of debt in enterprise capital structure affects negatively on its value for the additional benefis connected with debt usage are wasted (these benefits result from tax interest shield). On the other hand, however, at first, along with increased debt the enterprise value increases as well, but at one point the disadvatages resulting from debt financing (increased shareholders and creditors risk making them require higher rate of return of capital entrusted) begin to exceed the advantages, causing lowering of enterprise value.

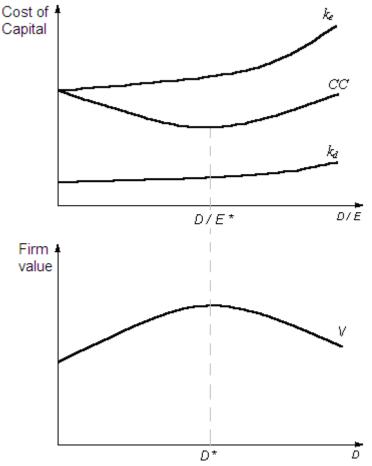


Fig. 2. Target capital structure D/E\* - traditional approach. source: A.C.Shapiro, S.D. Balbier, *Modern corporate finance*, Prentice Hall, Upper Saddle River 2000, s. 470.

Where:  $k_e - \cos t$  of equity rate,  $k_d - \cos t$  of debt rate, CC - awerage cost of capital rate, V - firm value,  $D/E^*$  - target / optimal capital structure.

This approach predicts that along with the D/E ratio rise, equity capital cost and debt cost also increase and as a result, the avarage weighed capital cost changes as well. During the initial phase of the D/E ratio rise, capital cost CC decreases, and then increases. The minimum CC level point corresponds to maximal enterprise value.

Similar conclusions results from the static theory of capital structure. Its assumptions are indentical to those of Modigliani-Miller model of taxes, except for considering the bankruptcy costs here. The bankruptcy costs are understood as some financial costs resulting from a real enterprise bankruptcy risk. The static theory assumes that the enterprise should increase debt financing until the moment when tax related profit, being a result of the leverage is equal to bankruptcy costs. The name of this approach originates from the fact that entrepreneur does not make changes in his assets and business activity type, but analyzes only the debt usage changes. According to this approach, capital cost initially decreases due to the leverage benefits effect, and then, exceeding the optimal debt level, starts to increase by reason of increasing bankruptcy costs. The debt financing enterprise value according to the static theory of capital structure is show on figure 3.

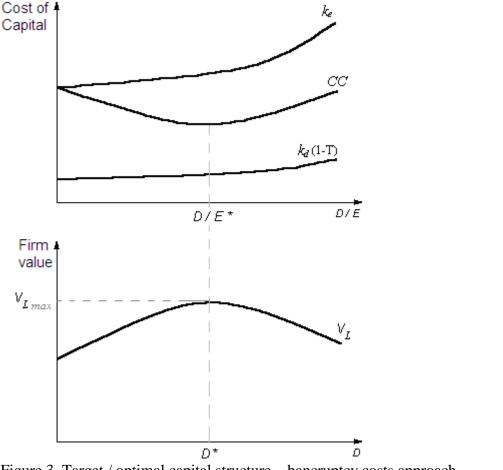


Figure 3. Target / optimal capital structure – bancruptcy costs approach source: S.A. Ross, R.W. Westerfield, B.D. Jordan, *Finanse przedsiębiorstw*, DW ABC, Kraków 1999, s. 554.

where: T – effective tax rate,  $V_{Lmax}$  – maximal leveraged firm value.

The JEREMIE initiative effects on target/optimal SME capital structure emerge in two ways. Firstly – by lowering bankruptcy costs / financial difficulties costs (as a result of the guarantee mechanism effect, more risk reducing than currently operating smaller local funds), the optimal debt point "moves right" (the SME debt capacity increases).

Secondly – the  $V_L$  curve would be placed higher (whereas the CC curve lower), because equity and debt costs would be lower – it is because for an over regional JEREMIE fund, the lower risk level permits to lower capital rate of return requests.

## 4. Enterprise optimal investment budget

Outside capital financing enterprises experience the fact that capital cost level changes as its sources from another sources run out. The entrepreneur should firstly use the cheapest sources, and then, when these run out, use the more expensive ones. Avarage weighed capital cost changes are usually presented as MCC graph, known as a marginal capital cost curve.

The marginal capital cost curve is a curve presenting the relation between marginal capital cost and the capital level needed to finance investment undertakings taken to completion by the enterprise. It results from arranging financing possibilities from the most cheapest ones (assuming that maintaining internal optimal relations between external and equity capital) to the most expensive ones, from the lowest marginal capital cost (MCC) to the highest one.

The SME investment possibilities curve presents in turn the most effective investment possibilities available for this SME arranged from the best (with highest IRR) to the least profitable (with lowest IRR).

Optimal investment budget is the enterprise capital amount destined to be spent on investments and resulting from equalizing the marginal capital cost rate and the marginal investment possibilities rate. Obeying to the optimal investment budget is a necessary condition for maximizing the enterprise value. Graphically, the optimal investment budget is determined on the basis of the marginal capital cost curve and the investment possibilities curve intersection.

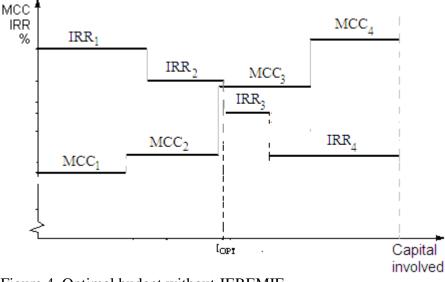


Figure 4. Optimal budget without JEREMIE source: own study

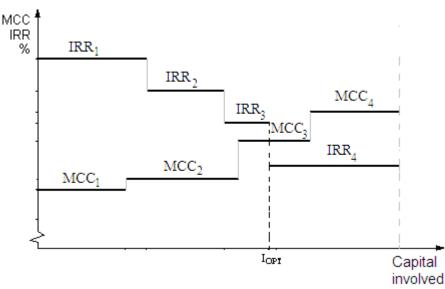


Figure 5. Optimal budget with JEREMIE. source: own study

On figures 4 and 5, both the marginal capital cost curve and the investment possibilities curve are marked. As a result of their interception, the optimal investment budget ( $I_{OPT}$ ) was obtained.

An access to the JEREMIE initiative by lowering the risk and increased availability of cheaper equity and debts – changes the SME situation by lowering the MCC curve position, what is shown on figures 5 and 6. As a result, more projects (bigger scale of the same undertaking, there may be still only one project) may be realized since they appear more effective. Optimal investment budgets will be higher after employing the JEREMIE initiative, what constitutes its added value.

This example shows why a precise algorithm for estimating the lacking SME financial means should not be expected. On figure 5, before applying the JEREMIE initiative, the optimal investment budget was lower, and therefore SME uses less money on realized projects. There is a "financial gap" – however its existence is illustrated by higher capital cost, but not by physical lack of money. (there is generally money, but much more expensive – what limits the possibilities of ralizing the SME undertakings).

In case shown on figure 6, the optimal investment budget contains already three projects, there will be more money used by SME, but there is still some kind of so called financial gap and the situation may be improved.

# 5. Conclusion

From purely financial results perspective, the JEREMIE initiative seems to be a profitable proposition, enhancing the functioning of SME. Particularily profitable are aspects connected with providing these enterprises with equity capital (i.e. Business Angels, Venture Capital) as well as with the theoretical possibilities connected with reducing the financial risk by over regional institution guarantees.

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## Summary

From financial perspective, the JEREMIE fund initiative is profitable and enhances the functioning of micro and small enterprises. Particularily profitable are aspects connected with providing these enterprises with equity capital (i.e. Business Angels, Venture Capital) as well as with the theoretical possibilities connected with reducing the financial risk by over regional institution guarantees (less vulnerable to potential risks occurring in the native region of the micro enterprises engaged in JEREMIE).