



Poverty

Microfinance Community



Community Update

No. 73: 31 January 2014

In this Issue

[From the Resource Team](#) | [Network Activity](#) | [Community News](#) | [Member Postings](#)

From the Resource Team

Dear Members,

Greetings from the Resource Team - Microfinance!

While we are in a process of planning our activities for the year 2014, we would like convey that in 2013, Microfinance community conducted **five national events, two research based publications and 14 discussions on a range of issues related to Microfinance, financial inclusion and livelihood promotion**. Four out the five national workshops/ roundtables were organized in consultation/collaboration with different ministries such as Ministry of rural development (MoRD), Ministry of housing and urban poverty alleviation (MoHUPA) and Ministry of Finance (MoF). All the initiatives were strategic and focused towards influencing policies and programmes related to microfinance and livelihood promotion. We convey our sincere thanks to the concerned ministries and members of our community for their support and participation. The details of the initiatives taken up in the year 2013 are given below:

National Workshops/ Roundtables

National Workshop on Voluntary Savings: National Savings Institute, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of finance considered Microfinance Community, Solution Exchange, suitable for getting inputs on linking SHGs, Federations and other collectives for National Savings Schemes (NSS). An e-discussion as well as a National Workshop on voluntary savings was organized in consultation and collaboration of Ministry of Finance.

Link for accessing the report on Voluntary Savings workshop:

<ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/resource/res10011401.pdf>

National Urban Livelihood Mission: Working with Ministry of Housing and Urban Development was a new initiative of Microfinance Community, Solution Exchange. While an e-discussion was initiated on National Urban Livelihood Mission, Microfinance Community and UNDP also conducted a national workshop on NULM in consultation with the ministry. The report of the workshop will be shared with you soon.

State of the Sector Report and Microfinance India Summit: This year, Microfinance Community of Practice functioned as a technical partner for Microfinance India Summit and knowledge and outreach

partner for the State of the Sector (SoS) Report - Microfinance 2013. The suggestions and recommendations received from the members through the e-discussions and SoS roundtable are incorporated in the SoS report 2013.

- **Report of the Roundtable on State of the Sector Report 2013** is available at:
<ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/resource/res23091303.pdf>
- **Consolidated Reply on State of the Sector Report 2013** – Microfinance: Structure of the Report, MF Programmes, Products and Services is available at:
http://in.one.un.org/img/uploads/SolEx_FTP/MF/cr-se-mf-23121301_SoS_2013.pdf (Size: 492 KB)
- **Consolidated Reply on State of the Sector Report 2013** – Microfinance regulations and status of compliances at various levels is available at:
<ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/cr/cr-se-mf-14101301.pdf> (Size: 2.53 KB)

National Rural Livelihood Mission: The recommendations of first national workshop and outputs of the e-discussions on NRLM were shared with the Ministry of rural development through the working group set up by Planning Commission. There were several policy decisions by the cabinet on NRLM implementation. The Union Cabinet has taken various decisions on targeting, interest rates, subsidy, and establishment of an umbrella organization at the national level in the form of a society etc. based on the recommendations of the Working Group on NRLM. The details of the cabinet decisions are available at: http://in.one.un.org/img/uploads/SolEx_FTP/MF/res20051303.pdf.


UNDP and Microfinance Community of Practice, Solution Exchange in collaboration with the Ministry of rural development conducted second national roundtable on NRLM this year. The purpose of the workshop was to assess the status of NRLM and also discuss about strategies for the inclusion of persistently excluded groups. The workshop was focused on two thematic areas – Social inclusion and Capacity building. We will soon be sharing the report of the roundtable with you.

Roundtable on Financial Inclusion and livelihoods of Rickshaw Pullers: Based on the outputs of the e-discussions and a national level study supported by UNDP, a roundtable was organized to bring all the key stakeholders working on livelihood and financial inclusion issues of rickshaw pullers, on one platform. Several policy issues related to livelihoods and financial inclusion of rickshaw pullers have been identified.

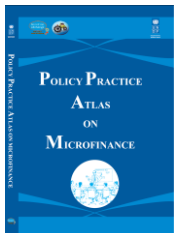
Report of the roundtable on rickshaw pullers is available at:
<ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/resource/res01021403.pdf>

Research based specialized Knowledge Products on Policy issues

Financial Inclusion and Livelihood Promotion of Rickshaw Pullers in India

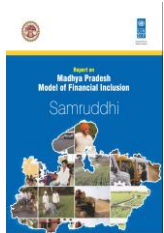
	<p>Report on financial inclusion and livelihood promotion of rickshaw pullers: This publication is based on a national level study, e-discussion and secondary data research on financial inclusion and livelihood issues related to rickshaw pullers. It is a unique resource to know the policy issues that need to be addressed for the benefit of the rickshaw pullers in India.</p> <p>The report on Financial inclusion and Livelihood promotion of rickshaw pullers is available at: ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/resource/res01021402.pdf</p>
---	--

Policy Practice Atlas on Microfinance

	<p>Policy Practice Atlas: Production of a 'Policy Practice Atlas on Microfinance' – a one stop information resource on policies, guidelines, circulars on financial inclusion and microfinance is an innovative initiative taken up by Microfinance Community. The availability of Policy Practice Atlas will facilitate in creating more awareness about policy issues and also a conducive policy environment on microfinance.</p> <p>The Policy Practice Atlas on Microfinance is available at: ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/resource/res01021401.pdf</p>
---	---

UNDP's Evaluation Report on Madhya Pradesh Model of Financial Inclusion

The Resource Team of Microfinance community coordinated the study on MP Model of financial inclusion from UNDP, New Delhi office. The study is done by two Consultant /experts of Microfinance Sector engaged by UNDP.

	<p>UNDP's Evaluation Report on Madhya Pradesh Model of Financial Inclusion: Madhya Pradesh has carved out a distinct identity in this field by evolving a pro-poor model of financial inclusion and 'Direct Benefit Transfer' titled as 'Samvruddhi' i.e. prosperity. The model has been targeted from three ends. First is SSSM (Samagra Samajik Suraksha Mission) to build up a common data base of the entire population of Madhya Pradesh that would enable to identify individuals and also the family data. The data base have all the requisites to throw up the entitlements that are either family based like 100 days employment to a family, Housing to a family, Food Security based on members in the family etc. or individual entitlements like health etc. This data resource not only distinguishes between BPL and APL families but also captures whether they are special groups like those enrolled in labour department etc. The second is to develop a conduit for devolution of funds. The third is an electronic fund management system to ensure timely and accurate payments to beneficiaries through Ultra-Small Bank (USB) branches or customer service points for opening bank accounts, transactions and ensuring last mile connectivity. The detailed report is available at: ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/resource/res23011401.pdf (Size, PDF: 17MB)</p>
---	---

E- Discussions: Besides various face to face activities, 14 e-discussions were conducted in the year 2013. These discussions were conducted on the following themes. For the benefit of the members, we are sharing the links of the Consolidated Replies that are released by us, till date. Kindly use the links to access the Consolidated Replies:

- **Livelihood Missions:** Status and Strategies of National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) http://in.one.un.org/img/uploads/SolEx_FTP/MF/cr-se-mf-23121301_SoS_2013.pdf (Size: 692 KB); and National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM)
- **State of the Sector Reports:** State of the Sector Report Microfinance: Structure of the Report, MF Programmes, Products and Services http://in.one.un.org/img/uploads/SolEx_FTP/MF/cr-se-mf-23121301_SoS_2013.pdf (Size: 492 KB); State of the Sector Report 2013: Microfinance regulations and status of compliances <ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/cr/cr-se-mf-14101301.pdf> (Size: 2.53 KB); and State of the Sector report - Housing Microfinance
- **Business Correspondents:** Financial Inclusion through Business Correspondent Model <ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/cr/cr-se-mf-13091301.pdf> (Size: 1.24 MB)

- **Producer Companies:** Financial services for producer companies, their promoters and members <ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/cr/cr-se-mf-07031301.pdf> (Size: 709 KB)
- **Voluntary Savings :** Extending National Savings Schemes through SHGs, Federations and other Collectives - <ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/cr/cr-se-mf-02051301.pdf> (Size: 369 KB)
- **National Land reforms policy** <ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/decn/cr/cr-se-decn-mf-emp-030114.pdf> (Size: 930 KB)
- **Vision document on Access to Finance (A2F)** for Uttar Pradesh <ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/cr/cr-se-mf-04031301.pdf> (Size: 594 KB)
- **Strategies, Products and Services for the Financial Inclusion of Rickshaw Pullers** - <ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/cr/cr-se-mf-17091201.pdf> (Size: 534KB)
- **Linking Grassroots Practitioners in Knowledge Sharing Processes** <ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/cr/cr-se-mf-emp-decn-16111201.pdf> (Size: 740 KB)
- **Banking and Microfinance :** RBI's paper on banking structure, Bharatiya Mahila Bank

Once again, we convey many thanks to our members.

Regards,

Navin Anand and Mohammad Anas
Resource Team, Microfinance Community
Solution Exchange, United Nations, New Delhi

Members Postings

Workshops, Trainings, Conferences & Events

Upcoming

From Mohammad Anas, UNDP, New Delhi



Sustainable Microenterprise and Development Program,
March 11 2014 – March 22 2014 , Accra, Ghana

The SMDP Ghana is an intensive training program offering critical skills for microfinance and enterprise development leaders. This program aims to help the participants learn the principles of microfinance management, risk management, managing for sustainability, balanced performance management for MFI, savings groups, and agricultural value chain financing. Please click [here](#) to apply.



5th Annual Microinsurance Summit, March 10, 2014 to March 13, 2014, Miami, USA

Community News

Open Queries:

- **QUERY:** [Strategies for implementation of National Urban Livelihood Mission - Experiences; referrals.](#) Click [here](#) to send your responses

From Our Partners

Call for Action

From Mohammad Anas, UNDP, New Delhi



Call For Papers: The microFINANCE REVIEW

The microFINANCE REVIEW is a journal from Department of Economic Analysis & Research (DEAR) , NABARD, the journal is aimed at providing platform to policy makers, donors, researchers and others who are associated with the microfinance sector to come together and debate on various issues such as socio-economic empowerment, institutional arrangements and innovations in microfinance products with special focus on rural clients and other identified issues

Latin America's 5th Annual Microinsurance Summit 2014 tackles the need to do to create win-win distribution channels, develop new products for the segment in a more creative way, and radically change the way you reach the market through a powerful mobile strategy. Learn from the companies that have a proven record of success and extensive experience in the Latin American market. Please click [here](#) to register.



Mobile Money and Digital Payments Americas 2014, April 07 to April 09, 2014, Mexico

Mobile Money Americas is an annual forum that will focus on the regional value proposition for mobile money. As the branchless banking regulations in many countries across LACs is being amended to enable more stakeholders to drive innovation, the speakers will be focussing on the business case for microfinance, and the next generation of financial services for the un- and under banked. From exploring the commercial case for interoperability to examining the business models driving mobile trends. Please click [here](#) for registration.



Cracking the Nut Africa: Improving Rural Livelihoods and Food Security, January 13 to January 15, 2014, Kigali, Rwanda

This three-day event will highlight innovations in the development of rural and agricultural livelihoods, financial inclusion, and increasing rural food security and nutrition in Africa. The conference will showcase best practices through focused themes like Reducing costs and risks of serving rural clients; Preparing for sustainability of future livelihoods and enticing investors to key agricultural value chains. The conference will also have high-level panel discussions on 'proper feeding of a growing population', and 'facilitating positive behavioral changes'. Please click [here](#) to participate.



Executive Education Programme 2014, 24th - 28th March 2014, J-PAL Global, Cambridge, MA, MIT, USA

This is a five-day program on evaluating social programs that provides a thorough understanding of randomized evaluations and pragmatic step-by-step training for conducting one's own evaluation. It will focus on the benefits and methods of randomization, choosing an appropriate sample size, and common threats and pitfalls to the validity of the experiment. The program is designed for people from a variety of backgrounds including

pertaining to the microfinance sector in India and abroad . Please click [here](#) to participate.

Call for papers ITEM5: Microfinance conference in Casablanca

The Banque Populaire Chair in Microfinance of the Burgundy School of Business and ISCAE, Casablanca, Morocco in collaboration with Attafiq Micro Finance. Please click [here](#) to participate.

From Radhika Kaul Batra, United Nations, New Delhi



Call for Nominations : Equator Prize 2014

UNDP has just launched the Equator Prize 2014 call for nominations. Awarded every two years, the Equator Prize recognizes outstanding local sustainable development solutions for people, nature and resilient communities. The Equator Prize 2014 will honor twenty-five (25) local initiatives working to reduce poverty through the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems. Click [here](#) to participate.

Publications, Papers and Reports

From Mohammad Anas, UNDP, New Delhi



[Committee on Comprehensive Financial Services for Small Businesses and Low Income Households \(Pdf.3.36 MB\), December 2013](#)



[The Global Financial Development Report 2014: Financial Inclusion, The World Bank Group, \(Pdf.9.8 MB\) November 2013](#)



[UNDP Evaluation Report: Madhya Pradesh Model of Financial Inclusion 'Samruddhi' \(Pdf.17MB\), January 2014](#)

managers and researchers from international development organizations, foundations, governments and non-governmental organizations from around the world, as well as trained economists looking to retool. Please click [here](#) to register.



Frankfurt School of
Finance & Management
Bankakademie | HfB

Frankfurt School's Development Finance e-learning Platform LinkEd, March-August 2014, Frankfurt, Germany

LinkEd is the development finance e-learning platform of the Frankfurt School of Finance & Management. With LinkEd educational programmes of Frankfurt School can be accessed from all over the world, allowing you to take part in the 6-month part-time certification courses like Certified Expert in Microfinance, Certified Expert in SME Finance and Certified Expert in Risk Management. Click [here](#) for further information and registration.



HARVARD Kennedy School
Executive Education

Rethinking Financial Inclusion: Smart Design for Policy and Practice February 23-28, 2014, Cambridge MA, USA

Rethinking Financial Inclusion: Smart Design for Policy and Practice, Harvard Kennedy School's newest Executive Education program, will explore frontier issues in finance for the poor and address challenges faced by both low and high-income countries. The Course will combine an evidence-based approach to understanding the market for finance and client needs with theoretical insights on how to design financial products to meet those needs. Click [here](#) to apply.

Legal Updates

From Mohammad Anas, UNDP, New Delhi

A new road map for financial inclusion by Reserve Bank of India

The RBI Committee on Comprehensive Financial Services for Small Businesses and Low Income Households, headed by Mr Mor, an ex-ICICI Bank executive, presented its report last week. The Key goal of the committee was about providing access to high-quality financial services to all sectors of the economy, including low-income households and small businesses as an important component of financial sector policy. This is motivated by the fact that; (a) there are well documented links between the extent of financial development and economic growth; (b) the depth and breadth of financial services access in the country could impinge materially on the conduct of monetary policy and the ability of the regulators to balance between inflation, growth, and unemployment concerns; and (c) development of market infrastructure such as payment systems has the ability to improve the efficiency of all firms and of the interaction of government with citizens.

The focus of the committee was to frame a clear and detailed vision for financial inclusion and financial deepening in India. The intent of the vision statements in the report is to provide specific benchmarks



[Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium \(SFAC\) Guidelines: Equity Grant and Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme for Farmer Producer Companies \(Pdf. 464KB\) January 2014](#)



[Towards De-risking Disasters: Taking stock of microinsurance for disaster risk reduction -Index based microinsurance in South and South East Asia \(Pdf: 5.2MB\) December 2013](#)



[Brief: Trends in International Funding for Financial Inclusion, CGAP \(Pdf: 347KB\) December 2013](#)



MFIN MicroMeter© (Pdf.853 KB) November 2013

Job Opportunities

From Garima Mishra, Microsave, Lucknow

Recruitment, for details, please visit
:Careers at MicroSave
<http://www.microsave.net/career>

to regulators to assess the quality of financial inclusion and deepening obtained in India. Please click [here](#) for details. To report is available for [download](#) at RBI web link.

RBI issues guidelines for Self Regulatory Organization (SRO) for NBFC-MFI

To give effect to the recommendation of the Sub-Committee on formation of industry associations, to ensure effective monitoring of the functioning of NBFC-MFIs, their compliance with the regulations and code of conduct and in the best interest of the customers of the NBFC-MFIs, the Reserve Bank has decided to accord recognition to industry associations as SRO of NBFC-MFIs.

The SRO holding recognition from the Reserve Bank will have to adhere to a set of functions and responsibilities, such as formulating and administering a Code of Conduct recognized by the Bank, having a grievance and dispute redressal mechanism for the clients of NBFC-MFIs, responsibility of ensuring borrower protection and education, monitoring compliance by NBFC-MFIs with the regulatory framework put in place by the Reserve Bank, surveillance of the microfinance sector, training and awareness programmes for the members, Self Help Groups, etc and submission of its financials, including Annual Report, to the Reserve Bank. Please click [here](#) for the guidelines.

Network Activity

Completed Queries

Query: State of the Sector Report – Microfinance: Structure of the Report, MF Programmes, Products and Services - Experiences; Advice. – From Venugopalan Puhazhendhi, State of the Sector Report 2013-Microfinance, New Delhi

Issued 23 December 2013. Download [here](#)

Provides a landscape view on the issues of microfinance sector and innovations in microfinance products and services in rural and urban areas; microfinance arrangements for various segments and sectors of Microfinance; SHG Bank Linkage Programme; and National Rural Livelihood Mission and other leading programmes and projects.

Previous Updates

For PDF Version of last update no. 72 **(December 2013 issue)** ,please visit: ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/comm_update/mf-update-72-19121301.pdf

For previous updates please click [here](#)

Many thanks to all who contributed to this issue!

If you have items to feature in this News Update, please send it to Solution Exchange for the Microfinance Community in India at se-mf@solutionexchange-un.net.in.

Disclaimer: In posting messages or incorporating these messages into synthesized responses, the UN accepts no responsibility for their veracity or authenticity. Members intending to use or transmit the information contained in these messages should be aware that they are relying on their own judgment.



Copyrighted under Creative Commons License "[Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/)".
Re-users of this material must cite as their source Solution Exchange as well as the item's recommender, if relevant, and must share any derivative work with the Solution Exchange Community.



Solution Exchange is a UN initiative for development practitioners in India. For more information please visit www.solutionexchange-un.net.in