



Poverty

Microfinance Community



Community Update (Special Issue)

No. 65: 14 March 2013

In this Issue

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

From the Resource Team

Dear Members,

Greetings!

We are happy to inform our esteemed members that we will be continuing with the practice of releasing our update on monthly basis. During last eight months, a number of virtual and face to face initiatives have been undertaken by the microfinance community. For the benefit of the members, we are sharing the details of all the publications and other initiatives of Microfinance Community in this special update.

Besides publications and various face to face events, the focus of Microfinance Community has been on conducting discussions on the subjects where there is high level of buy in from the Government and other relevant agencies. We feel that the purpose of producing knowledge products will be served only if the government or other agencies will utilize the knowledge products. The utilization of knowledge products could be for various purposes such as making changes in the policy/programmes, developing tools or building capacities of the practitioners.

KEEP CONTRIBUTING FOR 'COLLECTIVE KNOWLEDGE CREATION' TO INFLUENCE THE SECTOR AND BENEFIT THE DISADVANTAGED

Regards,

Regards,

[Navin Anand](#) and [Mohammad Anas](#)

Resource Team, Microfinance Community
Solution Exchange, United Nations, New Delhi

Important Initiatives of Micro Finance Community

I. Publications by Microfinance Community of Practice

Synthesis Document on Microfinance



The synthesis document is a specialized knowledge product of Microfinance Community wherein **50 consolidated Replies** are classified into five major themes: Microfinance Products, Services and Delivery Mechanism; Microfinance for Livelihoods and its Sub sectors; Microfinance for Inclusion; Microfinance Technologies, Tools, Processes and Systems; and Enabling Policy and Institutional Environment for Microfinance. Besides thematic coverage, the document covers issues related to all the three environments of microfinance – internal (Micro), intermediary (Meso) and external (Macro). This document incorporates synthesis papers on all the five themes. These papers give a broad idea of the particular theme. These papers also provide inputs to different microfinance players on important issues to be addressed in the MF sector.

Available at :

ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/Events/SynthesisDocument/MF_SD_res190509.pdf

Ready Reckoner on Microfinance



The Ready Reckoner is an amalgamation of resources in the field of microfinance in India and will help UN agencies, non-government organizations, microfinance institutions, banking institutions, government, research & training institutions, and independent practitioners to readily access information on organizations, knowledge products, microfinance experts, portal and information bases, tool frameworks and technologies as well as innovative experiments in the field of microfinance and livelihood promotion. The Ready Reckoner is a “Resource of Resources on Microfinance” as it incorporates **312 significant experiences in microfinance, 85 important websites, 500 relevant papers/circulars**, tools and technologies including training programmes and courses, directory of **350 organizations**, classified by legal status and **list of professionals** with contact information.

Available at : ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/Events/ReadyReckoner/MF_RRM_res010710.pdf

Regulations on Microfinance: Synthesis of Important Discussions on Microfinance Regulations



This document incorporates the outputs of three discussions on Microfinance Regulations - Malegam Committee Report, National Regulatory Framework for Microfinance Sector and Microfinance (Development

and Regulation) Bill. While the discussion on national regulatory framework incorporates various issues related to regulation in the microfinance sector, discussions on Malegam Committee and Microfinance (Development and Regulation) Bill focus specifically on the key issues that are covered in the Malegam Committee report and MF bill.

Available at: ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/comm_update/res15121101.pdf (Size: 3.31 MB)

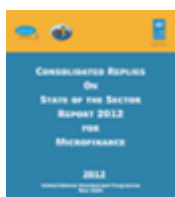
Financing Value chains and MSME



This is a special publication wherein the outputs of the discussions (Consolidated Replies) related to financing value chains and MSME sector are incorporated in the logical sequence. Four knowledge products covering thematic area of financing agriculture value chains, Micro Enterprises, SMEs as well as microenterprise development are included in the document. A technical paper based on the outputs of all the discussions on the subject of Financing Value chains and MSME is also placed in the beginning of the document. This paper provides a good strategy for microenterprise development and financing for MSME sector.

Available at: <ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/resource/res28121202.pdf>

Consolidated Replies on State of the Sector Report 2012 for Microfinance



This document incorporates outputs of two discussions conducted on State of the Sector Report 2012. The summaries of the two discussions on SOS 2012 also find place in the State of the Sector Report 2012 released in the Microfinance India Summit 2012. The output of the first discussion provides inputs of the members on the structure of SOS 2012 and microfinance products. The outputs of the second discussions are focused on social and Financial Performance Management, Policy and Regulatory Environment of MF and innovative experiments for fast tracking financial inclusion.

Available at: <ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/resource/res21121202.pdf>

Strategies for implementation of National Rural Livelihood Mission



This document clearly informs about the possible strategies that can be applied for the implementation of the NRLM. The publication not only incorporates outputs of the discussions on NRLM design but also on NRLM implementation framework. In order to add value to the document, a strategy paper based on the recommendations of the members is also incorporated in the beginning of the document. The strategy paper could be used for developing livelihood strategies and also for the preparation of State Perspective & Implementation Plans (SPIPs) as it provides lot of ideas on livelihood promotion in context of skills

development, wage, Job, Self-employment.

Available at: <ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/resource/res21061201.pdf>

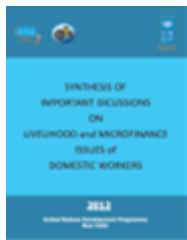
Employment, Governance and Microfinance issues under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS)



This publication incorporates all the knowledge products on MGNREGA including innovative mechanisms for payment of wages. In all, 12 consolidated replies are included in the document. The document is very useful for all those working directly or indirectly on MGNREGA as it covers various subthemes like women in NREGP works, Taking NREGA beyond wages to sustainable livelihoods, integrating sustainable agriculture and asset building within NREGA, NREGA operational Guidelines, Redressal mechanism in NREGA, ICT for NREGP implementation and innovative ways for wage payment under MGNREGA.

Available at : <ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/resource/res21121205.pdf>

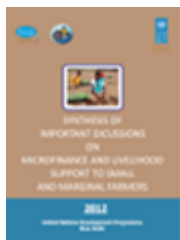
Livelihood and MF issues related to Domestic Workers



This publication focuses on the issues related to domestic workers such as financial inclusion of urban poor , issues related to identity proof for opening accounts in the banks, best practices for domestic workers, ensuring well-being of the domestic workers through skill development, engaging placement agencies for the domestic workers and protection of rights and promotion of decent work for domestic workers. In context of financial inclusion the discussion on identification covers issues like RBI Guidelines for no frill accounts and the problems faced by the domestic workers in providing identification proof, processes that can be adopted to engage banks to be proactive and cooperative and Innovative mechanisms for creating awareness about the rights of domestic workers to banking services.

Available at: <ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/resource/res21121203.pdf>

Microfinance and livelihood support to Small and Marginal Farmers



This publication incorporates all the discussions on marginal and small farmers such as micro financing for agricultural value chains, Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojna, MF for small farmers through exclusive agriculture credit cooperatives and JLGs, Livestock insurance and MF for minor irrigation and community based water management systems. The discussions covered various subthemes like various financial

schemes available for small and marginal farmers, changes required in MKSP, financial schemes for agriculture and allied activities. The discussion on an innovative subject of Livestock insurance provides information about some innovative livestock insurance experiments.

Available at: <ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/resource/res21121204.pdf>

Special Publication on Financial Literacy

Financial Literacy as a tool for Financial inclusion and Client Protection



This is a unique publication as the report is prepared by incorporating the outputs of **three UNDP supported research study reports** – Assessment Study of design and delivery of Financial Literacy among poor across 7 UN Focus States; Facilitating ICT enabled Financial Inclusion in India”; and Literacy among poor across 7 UN Focus States; Facilitating ICT enabled Financial Inclusion in India”; and “State Level Financial Literacy Strategies Summary Report for 7 States. The report also draws a lot from the outputs of two e-discussions in Microfinance Community-Solution Exchange of UNDP on – “Enhancing Outreach of Microfinance and Use of Information Kiosks”; and Information and Guidance Centres for Rural Poor including particularly vulnerable tribal groups”. The report is consolidated and written by Mr. Hemantha Kumar Pamarthy. Available at: <ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/resource/res21121201.pdf>

Roundtable on Implementation Framework of Aajeevika (NRLM)



A national level round table was conducted in order to share the results of regional consultation and outputs of the discussions taken up by Microfinance Community of Practice, Solution Exchange on the NRLM design and implementation framework. In all, **50 participants** from a variety of institutions, sub-sectors, functional areas and geographic locations were present at the roundtable. These included representatives of CSOs and social entrepreneurs working closely with scheduled tribes including particularly vulnerable tribal groups (PVTGs), scheduled caste communities, rural women, minority communities, migrant labourers, and PwDs. Report is available at: <ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/Events/res25051201.pdf>

II. National Level Face to Face Events

Roundtable on State of the Sector Report 2012

Besides conducting two e-discussions on State of the Sector Report, Microfinance Community also took the initiative of organizing a roundtable on SOS 2012 with the support of UNDP. The objectives of conducting a roundtable on SoS 2012 was not only to strengthen the structure of the State of the Sector Report 2012 through a consultative process but also to enhance the coverage of the report by getting first-hand information from the practitioners and enhance the ownership of the report. Full report is available at:

<ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/resource/res28081201.pdf>

National Workshop on Voluntary Savings

A national level workshop on voluntary savings was organized on 9th November 2012 at Radisson Blue hotel, New Delhi by UNDP facilitated Microfinance Community of Practice, Solution Exchange, with the support of financial inclusion project implemented through Poverty Unit of UNDP. Besides National Savings Institute, Ministry of Finance, more than 50 representatives from a range of NGOs, MFIs, MF networks and Cooperatives including MYRADA, SAMPARK, GIZ, NABARD, UNDP, Access Development Services, Hand In Hand, Sanchayan Society, CASHPOR, Ibtada, Sa-dhan, PRADAN, APMAS, Apni Sahkari Samiti, National Handicapped Finance Corporation, Sahulat Microfinance Society etc. participated in the workshop. A brief report of the workshop is available at: <ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/resource/res17011301.pdf>

III. Research Based initiatives

'Bridge Model'

A 'Bridge Model' that aims to connect grass roots practitioners in the knowledge sharing process is developed and piloted in Dungarpur Rajasthan. In this model, there are 'bridge institutions' at the state/district levels and 'knowledge kendras /centres' at the grassroots level to connect to practitioners and particularly Excluded Groups (PEGs). Under the model, bridge institutions function as a conduit between Solution Exchange and grassroots practitioners. This model is experimented through the use of innovative mechanisms and technologies such as community radio, video and audio recordings, voice mails, SMS or helpline on phone/mobiles, or any use of folk media for communication.

Policy Practice Atlas

The Microfinance Community has created a unique research based knowledge product 'Policy Practice Atlas' - A single source for all the policies, Acts, rules and regulations as well as circulars related to microfinance which will consolidate all microfinance services - Savings, Credit, Micro insurance, Micro Pensions; Transfer of money and Micro Leasing.

Study on Financial inclusion related issues of Rickshaw Pullers

A national level study has been conducted covering three states of India - Assam, Jharkhand and Rajasthan. The focus of the study was to document the strategies and mechanisms applied for the social security and collectivization of rickshaw pullers; assess needs of microfinance services for rickshaw puller and their families. The study assessed the availability of schemes and programmes for rickshaw pullers so as to suggest innovative microfinance products and services for these people.

We will also share the reports of the above mentioned three research initiatives soon.

IV. Key Areas of discussion in the last six months

MF CoP also conducted discussions on a number of issues and themes such as State of the Sector report 2012 (two discussions), Street Vendors, Financial inclusion of Rickshaw Pullers, Voluntary Savings, MSME, Corporate Social Responsibility, Linking Grassroots practitioners in the knowledge sharing process, wage payments under MGNREGA, Regional Rural Banks, Financing micro enterprises through MFIs.

The focus of the Microfinance Community is on conducting discussions on the subjects where there is high level of buy in from the Government and other relevant agencies. We feel that the purpose of producing knowledge products will be served only if the government or other agencies will utilize the knowledge products. The utilization of knowledge products could be for various purposes such as making changes in the policy/programmes, developing tools or building capacities of the practitioners.

Members Postings

Workshops, Trainings, Conferences & Events

Upcoming

From [Mohammad Anas](#), UNDP, New Delhi

Africa Microinsurance and Microfinance Conference 2013, 26 March – 28 March 2013, Accra, Ghana

The event is organized by the West Africa Business School and is intended for stakeholders interested in microinsurance as a tool for poverty alleviation in Africa. For more information, you may contact Obasi Ngwuta at info@westafricabusinessschool.com or wabs.edu@gmail.com



Sankalp Social Enterprise Journey 2013, April 14-16, Mumbai, India

The Sankalp Summit is a collaborative platform of social enterprises, impact investors, policy makers, academicians and other market makers. It is a forum of over 350 social enterprises, over 300 investors and 300 sector stakeholders. For more details please visit: <http://www.journeysforchange.org/journeys/sankalp-social-enterprise-journey-april-2013>



6th African Microfinance Conference, 13-15 August 2013, Durban, South Africa

The theme of the conference focuses on "Financial Inclusion: From Policy to Practice" and asks the question "What practical steps need to be taken to expand financial inclusion".

Website for conference: www.corecompetency.co.za/amc2013



The Microcredit Summit Campaign, 9-11 October 2013, Manila, Philippines. The 2013 Microcredit Summit will convene at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC) in Manila and will focus on "Partnerships against Poverty: Finance, Government, Business, and Civil Society." Details available at: <http://100millionideas.org/category/partnerships-against-poverty/>

Trainings & Workshops

From [Sanjeev](#), Kaarak, New Delhi

Executive Training Program on 'Result Based Project Management', 13th-15th March 2013, New Delhi

Kaarak is an advisory and professional services firm with expertise in

Community News

Open Queries:

- **QUERY:** Financial services for producer companies, their promoters and members- Experience; Referrals. Click [here](#) to send your responses
- **QUERY:** Extending National Savings Schemes through SHGs, Federations and other Collectives- Experiences; Advice. Click [here](#) to send your responses

From Our Partners

Call for Action

From [Vibhu Arya](#), The Flat Pyramid
Each One Bank One, a financial inclusion campaign by The Flat Pyramid
To join the campaign please click [here](#)

From [Mohammad Anas](#), UNDP, New Delhi
Seeking Photos for 2013 Partnerships against Poverty Summit Website, please click [here](#) to participate



Cracking the Nut 2013, June 25-26, Dresden, Germany: Call for Proposals. For further details please click [here](#)

Publications and Reports



[The New Microfinance Handbook, A Financial Market System Perspective-The World Bank Publications](#) (Pdf.6.8 MB) Jan 2013



[Protecting the working Poor-Annual Report 2012-ILO and Microinsurance Innovation Facility](#) (Pdf. 4.5 MB), Feb 2013



[Microfinance in Myanmar Sector Assessment-CGAP and IFC](#) (Pdf.2.95 MB), Jan 13

diverse areas of project management and research. The three day training program will focus on key concepts, paradigms and principles of Result Based Management. The major takeaways of the training are an in-depth understanding of logical framework, risk analysis, stakeholder analysis and determining indicators for reporting outputs and outcomes. For Training Brochure (including fee details) and Registration Form, please write at eedp@kaarak.in

From [Mohammad Anas](#), UNDP, New Delhi

Business Planning and Financial Projections with Microfin, 13-17 May 2013, Washington DC, USA

This course guides participants through a step-by-step process for developing a business plan and financial projections for a microfinance institution using Microfin 4.0, the sophisticated financial projections software that was developed by the two facilitators of this training course, Chuck Waterfield and Tony Sheldon, with financial support from CGAP, Women's World Banking, and Sida. For further details Please contact Tony Sheldon at: jasber@well.com and Chuck Waterfield at waterfield@microfin.com



The HBS-ACCION Program on Strategic Leadership for Microfinance, April 1-6 2013, HBS, United States

ACCION in partnership with Harvard Business School will be launching Program on Strategic Leadership for microfinance leaders from around the world to examine the issues in the company of industry peers while being exposed to some of the foremost thinkers and practitioners in the field of business strategy and management. The program will help microfinance leaders to rise to new levels of leadership, benefiting themselves, their organizations and the many poor they seek to reach through microfinance. For additional information please visit <http://www.accion.org/hbs>



Frankfurt School of
Finance & Management
Bankakademie | HfB

Frankfurt School's Development Finance , Micro & SME Banking Summer Academy July 7-12 2013, Frankfurt, Germany

Frankfurt School of Finance & Management has announced the start of 2013 Summer course in Micro & SME Banking. The course, which is based on Frankfurt School's broad experience in practical project work and theoretical business school education programs, is tailored to the needs of mid-level managers and loan officers active or interested in Micro & SME Banking. Additionally the latest trends of micro- and SME banking as well as micro insurance will be discussed. Further details available at: www.frankfurt-school.de/summer_academy



Vulnerability: The State of the Microcredit Sumr Campaign Report, 2013, Feb 2013

From [Sugandh Saxena](#), **MFIN**
MFIN MicroMeter©: Provides an overview of the Indian microfinance industry, as of 31st Dec 2012. Issue 4, Feb 2013

From [Garima Mishra](#), **Microsave**

Implementing Training for E/M-Banking Agents

The Case for a Bank Managed Agent Network in the Business Correspondent Model

Mobile Money - Influencers of success

Video

Mobile Money and Partnership Models

Job Opportunities

From [Sabiha Lala](#), Third Sector Partners, Mumbai

Position: Head - Fundraising

Location: Delhi, Mumbai

Organisation: Cashpor Microcredit

For more information, please click [here](#)

From [Garima Mishra](#), Microsave

Position: Project Team Leader

Location: Papua New Guinea

Organisation: Microsave

Deadline: 15 March 2013, 16:30 Hrs

For further details click [here](#)

Position: Consultant-Insurance

Research Location: Lucknow

Organisation: Microsave

Deadline: 08 March 2013

For further details click [here](#)

From [Susmita Mukherjee](#), Restless Development International, New Delhi

Position: Research and Evaluations Manager

Location: Delhi

Organisation: Restless Development International

Deadline: 24 March

For details please click [here](#)

Frankfurt School's Development Finance, Housing Finance Summer Academy, July 21-26 2013, Frankfurt, Germany

This course will discuss the latest topics and trends in the housing sector with focus on conveying practical knowledge and tools for successfully managing mortgage lending operations and developing approaches and products that meet the rising demand for housing finance. Further details available at: www.frankfurt-school.de/summer_academy



CGAP Course for Microfinance Funders, 8-12 April 2013 in Kathmandu, Nepal

CGAP in partnership with ILO is going to launch a course for funders of Microfinance, donors and investors. It will give knowledge on the tools, and network to make the right decisions. The course covers the history, trends and the fundamentals of how donors and investors can effectively fund microfinance. It also features field visits to MFIs. For details please visit: <http://www.cgap.org/events/cgap-course-microfinance-funders>

Legal Updates

From [Navin Anand](#) and [Mohammad Anas](#), UNDP, New Delhi

*The **Reserve Bank of India** released the [report](#) of the Expert Committee (Chairman: Dr. Prakash Bakshi, Chairman, NABARD) constituted to review the existing Short Term Cooperative Credit Structure (STCCS). The Committee made an in-depth analysis of the STCCS and examined various alternatives with a view to reducing the cost of credit, including feasibility of setting up of a two-tier STCCS as against the existing three-tier structure.*

The Microcredit Innovation Department of NABARD has recommended product level changes to address the persisting issues in SHG Bank Linkage Programme through its latest circular [SHG2: Revisiting the SHG Bank Linkage Programme](#)

[Union Budget 2013-14](#) announces to create a Credit Guarantee Fund for Farm Producer Companies with an initial corpus of INR 100 crores and allows leveraging on equity for working capital from financial institutions.

Network Activity

Completed Queries

Strategies, Products and Services for the Financial Inclusion of Rickshaw Pullers from [Pradip Kumar Sarmah](#), Centre for Rural Development (CRD) NOIDA. Experience; Advice.

Issued 13 February 2013. Download [here](#)

Discusses the demand and supply related aspects of financial inclusion of rickshaw pullers, their status, needs and potential of providing customized microfinance services such as savings, credit, micro-leasing, insurance as well as remittances and payments.

Previous Updates - 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.*



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