



## Poverty

## Microfinance Community



### Community Update

No. 76: 29 May 2014

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#### From the Resource Team

Dear Members,

Greetings from the Resource Team – Microfinance !

As you are aware that Microfinance Community of Practice has started an Action Group on “voluntary Savings”. Till date, thirty five members have joined the Action Group. We have created a sub community for the members of the Action Group so that discussions can take place within the group. In the Action Group on voluntary savings, we are seeking suggestions from the members on - Structure of techno legal document for linking SHGs, federation and other collectives for National Savings Schemes. We are happy to share the suggestions received so far (Available at: <ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/resource/res29051401.pdf>). We welcome new members to join the group. The address of the sub community is - [se-mf\\_ag-vs@solutionexchange-un.net.in](mailto:se-mf_ag-vs@solutionexchange-un.net.in).

Microfinance Community of Practice is keen to conduct a national level study on the status of financial cooperatives in India. Realizing the importance of studying financial cooperatives in India, Mr. Rishabh Sood, Rabo India Finance, Gurgaon initiated a query on “**Study of Financial Cooperatives in context of financial inclusion in India**”. We thank our members for their valuable contributions to the query. We are sure that the suggestions of the members will help in sketching the scope of the study and methodology. We will soon share the consolidated reply of the discussion with you.

We are happy to inform our members that the State of the Sector report Microfinance is now renamed **as Inclusive Finance Sector Report 2014**. The focus of this year's report is on financial inclusion. Some of the areas the report would cover include the status of financial inclusion, institutional arrangements at the national and regional levels, efficiency of multiple channels and the role of technology. The authors of this year's report – Dr. Tara Nair and Mr. Ajay Tankha have put up a query on the report to get inputs from the members. We are receiving good responses on the query and therefore we have extended the **reply by date of the query is extended to 9 June 2014**. We request our members to share case studies, reports of micro studies and your reflections on the working of different models of financial inclusion.

KEEP SHARING YOUR KNOWLEDGE FOR STRENGTHENING THE MICROFINANCE SECTOR!

Best 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*



#### **Asia Microfinance Forum-Financial Inclusion in Asia: Creating Dynamic Financial Ecosystem for the Poor** August 4- 8, Shanghai, China

The Banking With The Poor Network (BWTP) and The Foundation for Development Cooperation (FDC), in partnership with the Citi Foundation as Lead Sponsor and The China Association of Microfinance (CAM) are pleased to announce that the Asia Microfinance Forum 2014. AMF is one of the leading event in the region for organisations and individuals interested in providing and promoting inclusive and sustainable financial services in Asia. This event attracts a wide range of stakeholders including central banks, heads of government, microfinance practitioners, advocates, educational institutions, mobile phone and telecommunications companies, donor agencies, international financial institutions, NGOs, domestic government agencies, commercial banks, community-based savings institutions, technology and software companies, and a range of other organisations from across Asia and outside the region. Please click [here](#) for registration.



#### **EMERGE: The Forum on Consumer Financial Services Innovation**

June 4-6, 2014 in Los Angeles, USA

EMERGE Focuses on new consumer research and rich consumer perspectives to jumpstart innovation strategy in financial services. The Forum on Consumer Financial Services Innovation (formerly the Under banked Financial Services Forum) reflects our understanding that the financially underserved market has evolved. Click [here](#) for details.

## Community News

### Open Queries:

- **QUERY:** [Inclusive Finance Sector Report 2014 -Experiences; Advice](#). Click [here](#) to send your responses

### *From Our Partners*

#### Call for Action

*From Madhukar Shukla, XLRI Jamshedpur*



#### **Call For Entries: Sitaram Rao Livelihoods India Case Study Competition 2014**

ACCESS Development Services with support from Oxfam India and in partnership with XLRI announces the Sitaram Rao Livelihoods India Case Study Competition 2014. The theme of this year's Competition is 'Empowering Women in Agriculture'. Please click [here](#) for more details.

*From Aviva Alvares, NASSCOM, Bangalore*



#### **Call For Entries: NASSCOM Social Innovation Honours (NSIH) Program 2015 : Empowering Lives through Technology**

The NSIH is a platform to identify, award, showcase and promote innovative initiatives using Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) for positive social impact. Applications will open in the first week of August 2014. Please click [here](#) for more details.



### The 17th Microcredit Summit

September 3rd - 5th, Merida, Mexico

The 17th Microcredit Summit will be organized around the theme "Generation Next: Innovations in Microfinance," engaging delegates in a thoughtful discussion around the challenges and opportunities associated with the growth and transformation of the sector, especially through innovative and best practices that accelerate the steps to reach full financial inclusion. For further information and calculation please click [here](#)



### Partnership Forum

June 10-12, 2014, Dakar, Senegal

The MFW4A Partnership Forum is the flagship biennial event for the Making Finance Work for Africa (MFW4A) Partnership Secretariat. This year, the MFW4A Partnership Forum is aimed at providing a platform to provoke debates and discussions, foster the sharing of innovative ideas, good practices, tools, expertise and policy analysis amongst African Financial Sector champions from the public and private sectors in 'New Frontiers in African Finance'. Click [here](#) for details.



**20th Boulder Microfinance Training** July 7, 2014 to July 25, 2014, Turin Italy

The Boulder Microfinance Training program is a three curriculum focused on sustainable microfinance, and the creation of a community that will have an enduring influence for years to come. Participants join together with expert faculty and analyze, debate Microfinance issues, trends, and new topics. The Boulder learning environment offers diversity of perspectives and experiences which are critical to the industry, developing and furthering the careers of microfinance leaders for today and beyond. Please click [here](#) to register.



*From Mohammad Anas, UNDP, New Delhi*



### **Call for papers: The 6th International Conference on Islamic Banking and Finance: Risk Management, Regulation and Supervision**

*The IRTI and Borsa İstanbul, supported by Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey plan to jointly organize the "6th International Conference on Islamic Banking and Finance: Risk Management, Regulation and Supervision" to be held in Istanbul, Turkey on 16-17 September 2014. The main objective of the conference is to develop the methodology of identification, mapping and measurement of risk management in Islamic financial institutions supported by prudential regulation and effective supervision. Empirical as well as theoretical papers are invited. Please click [here](#) for details.*

### **Publications, Papers and Reports**

*From Sanjay Kumar Gupta, Faridabad*



[Article on "Why Reforming Government Agencies is Key to Poverty Alleviation", Quality Times, A Journal of Institute of Directors, India, May 2014](#)

*From Dean Karlan, USA*

[Microcredit Impacts: Evidence from a Randomized Microcredit Program Placement Experiment by Compartamos Banco, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, \(Pdf 1.6 MB\) April 2014](#)

*From Jonna Bickel, GIZ New Delhi*



**The 17th MFC annual conference: "The new world of financial inclusion: What role for microfinance?"** May 27- May 28 2014, Istanbul, Turkey

The 17th Microfinance Centre annual conference, entitled "The new world of financial inclusion: What role for microfinance?" will tackle the implications for the microfinance industry of the concepts of financial inclusion and access to finance. These two concepts encompass more financial and non-financial products and services, new delivery channels and more players (including banks, transfer agencies, mobile companies, etc.). This conference is an opportunity to debate how microfinance sits alongside these concepts, and discuss if there are any threats or new opportunities that can be explored by microfinance. Please click [here](#) to participate.



**Value Chain Program Design Training**, Sep 15, 2014 - Sep 19, 2014, Chiang Mai, Thailand

Action for Enterprise (AFE) is offering a series of three to five-day workshops that present the latest methodologies and practice for designing value-chain programs that incorporate strategies for sustainable impact. Participants will learn how to design programs that result in market-based solutions to MSME constraints such as market access, input supply, technology/product development, management training, policy reform, and access to finance. Examples will be used from enterprise development programs and practitioners worldwide. Click [here](#) for further information and registration.



**6<sup>th</sup> International Master in Microfinance for Entrepreneurship**, October, 2014- May 2015, Madrid, Spain

The 7 months of classroom training provides a seminar environment, students interact with top-level guest faculty from all sectors of the microfinance universe: investor institutions, MFI executives and founders, donor organizations, microfinance research and advocacy institutions, and academics. The curriculum provides students with a strong background in the fundamentals of microfinance - financial performance and sustainability, poverty measurement, social performance, rating MFIs, due diligence, and the how-tos of implementing community based microfinance projects. Click [here](#) to apply.

## Legal Updates

*From Mohammad Anas, UNDP, New Delhi*

**Minors over 10 years of age can open and operate bank independent savings bank accounts: Reserve Bank of India**

[Research study on 'How Rural Low-Income Households Perceive Financial Capability', GIZ, \(Pdf 1.5 MB\), April 2014](#)

*From Amit Arora, GIZ New Delhi*



[Online survey of MFIs as Business Correspondents, An MFIN-GIZ Assessment \(Pdf 639 KB\), February 2014](#)

*From Mohammad Anas, UNDP, New Delhi*



[Embedding Social Performance Management in Financial Service Delivery, Antonique Koning and Leah Wardle, CGAP \(Pdf 270 KB\) May 2014](#)



[The Art of the Responsible Exit in Microfinance Equity Sales, CGAP \(Pdf.654KB\), April 2014](#)

*From Praveen Kumar, MFIN, Gurgaon*



**9<sup>th</sup> issue of MFIN MicroMeter**© up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014 (Pdf.853 KB), May 2014

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allowed minors above 10 years of age to open and operate independently savings bank account and use other facilities like ATM and cheque books. The Reserve Bank today issued the [guidelines](#) allowing minors to operate bank accounts independently with a view to promote financial inclusion and bring uniformity in opening of such accounts in banks. Read [more](#)

### **Making the Bank Branches / ATMs accessible to persons with disabilities: Reserve Bank of India**

The Reserve Bank of India through a notification has advised the banks to provide, inter alia, ramps in all existing and future ATMs, and make at least one third of new ATMs installed as talking ATMs with Braille keypads. The RBI has examined the suggestions from the public and Government of India and issued a notification asking the banks to take necessary steps to provide all existing ATMs / future ATMs with ramps so that wheel chair users / persons with disabilities can easily access them. However, in cases where it is impracticable to provide such ramp facilities, whether permanently fixed to earth or otherwise, this requirement may be dispensed with, for reasons recorded and displayed in branches or ATMs concerned. Read [more](#)

## **Network Activity**

### **Completed Queries**

**Query: State of the Sector-Housing Microfinance 2013 - Experiences; Examples; From Vibhu Arya, Author, State of the Sector Report –Housing Microfinance 2013 and Milroy Paul, Convener – Action Group-Housing Microfinance Solution Exchange, United Nations**

Issued 25 March 2014. Download [here](#)

*Provides an overview of low income housing finance landscape in India. Highlights the demand supply gap, constraints and issues related to housing microfinance. Also shares the key initiatives recommendations in the housing microfinance space by the members.*

## **Previous Updates**

For PDF Version of last update no. 75 (**April 2014 issue**), please visit:

[ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/comm\\_update/mf-update-75-30041401.pdf](ftp://ftp.solutionexchange.net.in/public/mf/comm_update/mf-update-75-30041401.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](mailto:se-mf@solutionexchange-un.net.in).

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