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MICROFINANCE INSTITUTION NETWORK MODELS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Desktop research was conducted to study different international models of successful microfinance networks, and identify the common criteria among networks. The review examined nine models of networks in Uganda, Nigeria, Kenya, South Africa, Bolivia, the Philippines, India, Azerbaijan, and the Arab World. This report presents a summary of findings.

Legal Entity

The available information shows that the majority of networks / associations are registered as either non-government organizations (NGOs) or non-profit organizations (NPOs).

Membership

Four of the models studied have MFIs as members, while the others include – in addition to MFIs – international organizations (including donors) and professionals in the field.

Management Structure

The majority of associations surveyed are managed by a board with a combination of employees, secretariat or executive staff beneath them.

Sources of Funding

Available information indicates that the main source of funding is donors' funds/grants, followed by membership fees, and lastly occasional service fees. Such dependency on funds/grants raises a question about the sustainability of these networks.

Main Objectives

The majority of networks voiced two common objectives:

- **Advocacy:** Networks would like to play a role in advocating for the creation of an enabling environment for MFIs growth and development. Some of the models mentioned policy change or policy dialogue explicitly.
- **Adoption of best practices:** Networks strive to promote the adoption of best practices among member MFIs, including setting minimum performance standards. Two of the networks mentioned information sharing and promotion of transparency as priorities.

Secondary objectives expressed by some of the networks are:

- **Linkages:** Facilitating linkages between MFIs and relevant stakeholders (donors, government bodies). This networking role is important both for policy dialogues and for resource mobilization.
- **Regulation:** Developing of a code of conduct to be adopted by their member MFIs, which is rather an SRO role.

Main Activities

- Capacity Building: Networks mentioned capacity building as one of the main services provided to their member organizations and non-member organizations occasionally. The capacity building is generally achieved through training.
- Networking: A second major activity is conducting networking forums, such as workshops, conferences, regular meetings etc.
- Communication: Few of the studied models have a website, and 2 issue periodical newsletters.

Summary Table

	Uganda AMFIU	Nigeria CDMR	Kenya AMFI	S. Africa MEA	Bolivia FINRURAL	The Philippines MCPI	India ACDFI	Arab World SANABEL	Azerbaijan AMFA
Registration Year	1999	1999	1999	1994	1993		1998	2002	2001
Legal Type	NGO			Not for profit company	NPO			NGO	
Members Number	78 MFIs	26 MFIs	11 MFIs	20 MFIs	14 (including donors)	34 (26 practitioners and 8 providers)	27 professionals and organizations	49 MFIs organizations and professionals from 12 countries	14 INGOs
Out of Type	1500 MFIs All		4000 MFIs All	All		All	All	--	11 MFIs All
Management structure	Board (3 women) and Full time executive director	Board (1 woman) and director and four employees	Board (1 woman) and executive director	Board (4 women) and executive director and five employees	Information Unavailable	Board and five staff members	Board and Secretariat	Board and executive staff	Board and coordinator
Objectives / Goals	Advocacy Setting standards Monitoring system Code of Conduct	Advocacy Code of conduct and practices	MF legislation	Adoption of best practices Members' institutional development	Evaluating the impact of MF	Advocacy Adoption of poverty assessment tools Adoption of performance standards Capacity building of members Code of conduct	Advocacy Information sharing Adoption of best practices Set performance standards Networking Resource mobilization	Promote for Enabling Environment Capacity building of members Information exchange Adoption of best practices	Enabling legal environment Policy dialogue with government

						Resource mobilization			
Activities	Capacity building to MFIs Setting performance standards Policy debates	Capacity building Networking with stakeholders	Capacity Building of MFIs Networking with stakeholders Drafting MF bill	Capacity Building Code of conduct Networking with stakeholders WS and Conferences on MF	MF impact evaluation service Impact tracking tools Research	Networking	Annual policy conference Capacity Building	Capacity Building MF manuals Arabic MF gateway Annual conference	Performance monitoring system Networking Capacity building
Sources of Funds	Grants Membership fees Services fees	Grants Membership fees	Grants Membership fees	Grants Membership fees Services fees	Information Unavailable	Information Unavailable	Information Unavailable	Donors Membership fees Service fees	International NGOs
Website	N/A	N/A	N/A	Available	N/A	Available	N/A	Available	Available
Newsletter	N/A	Available	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Available	Information Unavailable	N/A

Assessment of Egyptian Networks

The Egyptian Small and Micro-Enterprise Association (ESMA) and the Egyptian Network of Microfinance (ENMF) are the two viable models in the Egyptian context. Following is a comparison of both networks according to the criteria derived from the review of international experiences.

	ESMA	ENMF
Registration Year	1990s	Under registration (2006)
Legal Type	NGO - Association	NGO - Association
Members: Number	27 members – 14 practitioners and 13 representatives of MFIs	13 founding members – 12 MFIs and SFD
Management structure	Board of directors (4 women), executive director (to be hired), treasurer and secretary	TBD
Objectives / Goals	Policy Advocacy Capacity Building of MFIs Information Database on Service Providers	Policy Advocacy Capacity building of member MFIs Information Database on Clients' credit history
Activities	Organization and project needs assessment Projects design, support and evaluation Capacity Building in the Form of Training	TBD
Sources of Funds	Membership fees Service fees Donors funding	Membership fees Service fees SFD funding for first 3 years of operation Donors and government funding
Website	N/A	N/A
Newsletter	Available	N/A

It is worth noting that the Egyptian networks are similar to the models reviewed in terms of membership structure, objectives, and sources of funding. Due to the recent establishment of the ENMF however, and the fact that it is under-registration, the analysis does not lend itself fully to the comparison. The strategic directions of their respective boards/founding members reflect ESMA's will to develop institutionally into a Self-Regulatory Organization (SRO), while the ENMF has taken a clear path towards becoming the Egyptian Network of MF institutions.

Coordination between both organizations is needed, particularly in the area of policy advocacy through a policy forum. A deeper assessment of the institutional needs of both organizations is recommended in order to determine their weaknesses and strengths, and accordingly the required technical assistance.

UGANDA MODEL

Association of Microfinance Institutions of Uganda (AMFIU)

Uganda is one of the most entrepreneurial countries with 90% of its non agricultural employment in small and micro enterprises. According to a USAID study conducted in 1995, there are approximately 800,000 small and micro enterprises in Uganda (63% in the commercial sector, 29% in the manufacturing sector and 8% in the service sector). 80% of these are in rural areas and 37.5% are female-owned. The number of microfinance institutions has grown since the mid 1990s. A 2003 study shows that there are now approximately 1500 MFIs offering loan services to more than 930, 000 savers and more than 390,000 borrowers.

There are four kinds of microfinance institutions active in Uganda: banks, credit institutions, micro deposit taking institutions and financial service providers including NGOs

Furthermore, there are difficulties facing the M&SMEs in Uganda, and these comprise of skill building, reaching clients, product mix, agricultural funding, commercial banks down-scaling and more.

Structure

- Legally registered in June 1999 as an NGO
- 78 MFIs
- 260, 000 clients
- Executive committee: seven members (3 women)
- Permanent secretariat: full-time executive director (paid employees)
- Members include different institutions (local and international NGOs, cooperatives, village banks, government agencies, donors)

Mission

- Stimulate and sustain the private sector development process
- Facilitate capacity building of members
- Participate actively in the global microfinance industry
- Serve as a key player in the rural and urban transformation of Uganda

Long term objectives

- Strengthen lobbying and advocacy capacity among AMFIU members
- Operate on sustainable business principles and build a strong financial base for AMFIU
- Set standards
- Develop monitoring indicators, and supervision systems, and
- Implement the code of conduct for AMFIU members which governs its members and enforces discipline among member MFIs

Activities

- Training workshops for MFIs on microfinance best practices
- Setting performance standards for network members
- Participated in the network bill of Uganda.
- Participated in policy debates on microfinance and poverty reduction
- Training programs
- Contributed to the design of government projects (e.g. the rural microfinance support program).
- Supporting growth of the MFI industry was to develop uniform performance indicators and reporting format that constitutes a performance monitoring system for the non-regulated MFIs. The performance monitoring system, has established consistent standards, which will contribute to risk control, adherence to minimum requirements and best practices within the micro finance industry

Funding

Sources of Funding

- Grants
- Membership fees
- Fees for services

Funding Partners

- The International Humanist Institute for Cooperation with Developing Countries - Hivos (The Netherlands)
- Support to Feasible Financial Institutions and Capacity Building Efforts– Suffice Programme (The European Union)
- The Netherlands Development Organization (SNV)

Website

N/A

Newsletters

N/A

Events organized

- AMFIU conducted a workshop conducted in Kampala in association with the Micro-credit Summit Campaign (based in Washington, D.C.) about how to integrate micro-credit with education, especially health education
- AMFIU organized a Workshop called “Towards a client-driven micro finance industry in Uganda: challenges and opportunities”

NIGERIA MODEL

Community Development and Microfinance Roundtable (CDMR)

Nigeria has seen the creation of several groups and institutions over the past 15 years to meet some of the needs for financial and non financial services, particularly in rural poor areas. The results produced by the Nigerian microfinance institutions have been remarkable and can be shared with other West African countries, however many of the MFIs need to enhance their capacity, increase their management skills and provide more technical assistance to their clients.

Structure

- Registered in May 1999
- 26 MFIs
- 460,000 clients
- Executive committee: five members (one woman)
- Permanent secretariat: four paid employees and a full time director

Mission

- Provide capacity building support services to member organizations with a view to enhancing quality service delivery to attain best practices in microfinance and enterprise development
- Represent the interest of the microenterprise sector to the public, government and donors, through promotion activities

Long term objectives

- Streamlining and strengthening the network's administrative, accounting and financial systems
- Developing a code of ethics, conduct, and practices
- Intensifying CDMR's advocacy roles in microfinance policy formulation

Activities

- Program appraisal strategies that target low-income individuals for poverty alleviation
- Developed participatory learning and action (PLA), participatory rural appraisal (PRA) training and strategic planning workshops
- Regularly collaborates with government and donor organizations in Nigeria
- Participated in a national stakeholders workshop on poverty alleviation organized by the federal government and in the Central Bank of Nigeria's Rural Savings Mobilization Program

Funding

Sources

- Grants
- Membership fees

Funding Partners

- Ford Foundation
- USAID-MBP

Website

N/A

Newsletter

Yes

Events Organized

Information unavailable

KENYA MODEL

Association of Microfinance Institutions

As of June 2003, there were an estimated 3,460 legally constituted microfinance service providers in Kenya, including 3,397 savings and credit co-operatives and co-operative-like community-based intermediaries, 56 microfinance institutions (MFIs), four commercial banks, two building societies, and the Kenya Post Office Savings Bank. Excluded from this list were 17,305 rotating savings and credit associations (ROSCAs), 115,884 registered women groups', and 1,342 primary agricultural producer and marketing cooperative societies, also involved in providing credit countrywide. There are approximately 3.8 million Kenyans depending entirely on financial NGOs, cooperatives, and the Kenya Post Office Savings Bank for financial service services.

Altogether, the microfinance sector comprises a very large and diverse group of institutions providing a range of loans and savings products to their clients. It is estimated that there are 3.8 million Kenyans depending entirely on financial NGOs for financial services, while another estimated 1.1 million depend on informal associations and groups for similar services countrywide.

Structure

- Registered in March 1999.
- 11 MFIs
- Members include NGOs, cooperative and village banks.
- 97,000 clients

- Executive committee: four members (one woman)
- Permanent secretariat: paid, part time executive director

Mission

- Develop a microfinance industry and an institutional framework that serves poor and low income people in Kenya

Long term objectives

- Ensure that the microfinance legislation is passed by parliament
- Increase membership in the network among MFIs

Activity (during last 12 months)

- Held a promotional microfinance month and two training sessions for microfinance managers on performance standards
- Involved in the formulation and drafting of a microfinance bill for Kenya
- Collaborates with government and donors organizations in Kenya
- Participated in the development of the poverty reduction strategy paper, which is a national initiative
- AMFI hosted the meeting of the Regional Program to Build Microfinance Networks in Africa held in April 1999

Funding

Sources

- Grants
- Membership fees

Funding partners

- Ford foundation
- The world bank
- DFID
- The Central Bank of Kenya
- VWVB/UNDP seed funding for networks

Website

N/A

Newsletter

N/A

Events Organized

Information unavailable

SOUTH AFRICA MODEL

Micro-enterprise Alliance

During the mid-1990s, whilst the retail banks were still indecisive about their approach to low-income consumers, a number of alternative financial institutions emerged.¹ These had both developmental and commercial motivations, and were not intended as replacements for retail banks. Both shared a recognition that it was fruitless to speak of ‘extending the market’ for retail finance ‘downward’: there is, in fact, *no viable market*, as understood by traditional banking institutions, amongst the very poor.

Small, Medium, and Microenterprise (SMME) microcredit programmes are based on the recognised need for credit facilities for such businesses, but also the recognition that the commercial banking sector does not provide them. Within government, SMME policy is understood as an element of broader economic growth and employment strategy. Accordingly, most of these initiatives are government-sponsored, principally by the Department of Trade and Industry (e.g. Khula Finance Limited).

In the last five years, a substantial South African microlending industry has emerged.² Although, as in all societies, there have always been ‘township’ moneylenders in South Africa, the ‘formal’ microlending industry is a new development, both in its extent and the fact that it is subject to uniform regulation. Although it fills an important gap, the microlending industry is not an appropriate alternative for most marginalised, survivalist households. Microlenders target clients with regular incomes, in urban areas or larger towns, where transaction costs are less. Possession of relevant documentation, such as payslips and ID documents, is a prerequisite for a loan. Many very poor South African households, by contrast, particularly in rural areas, lack even these documents.

*Microfinance and Poverty Alleviation in South Africa*³

Ted Baumann

Bay Research and Consultancy Services August 2001 Prepared by: Bay Research and Consultancy Services

[http://www.cmfnet.org.za/Documents/SA/Microfinance%20and%20Poverty%20Alleviation%20in%20South%20Africa%20\(Baumann\).doc#_Toc523121350](http://www.cmfnet.org.za/Documents/SA/Microfinance%20and%20Poverty%20Alleviation%20in%20South%20Africa%20(Baumann).doc#_Toc523121350)

Structure

- Established in April 1994 and became a non-for-profit company in January 2001

¹ This argument is not directed at parastatal housing finance initiatives, such as the recently collapsed Gateway Home Loans, but applies to them *mutatis mutandis*.

² See <http://www.mfrc.co.za/>.

³ Bay Research and Consultancy Services has prepared this discussion document as a conceptual input into the process of developing an appropriate microfinance policy for the Department of Social Development. It is strictly the opinion of the author, and has not been commissioned, sponsored, or sanctioned by any organisation, including the DSD or the Social Finance Unit of the ILO. It may be freely distributed and quoted, provided the source is acknowledged. Comments and criticisms are most welcome.

- 20 MFIs
- Members include local and international NGOs, cooperatives, village banks, government agencies and donors.
- 61,000 clients
- Executive committee: 11 people (four women)
- Permanent secretariat: five paid employees and a full time executive director

Mission

- Enhance the capacity, efficiency and effectiveness of microenterprise development by: increasing access and utilization of technical resources and information for microenterprise development organizations; positively influencing public issues which may impact on matters of mutual membership interest; and maximizing the financial sustainability of the Alliance

Long term objectives

- Improve impact through encouraging members to adopt best practices
- Build strong client organizations to deliver sound services; and promote members learning

Activities

- Delivered two courses, one for operations managers and one on fraud vulnerability
- Held a conference on building MFIs sustainability
- Worked with the government microfinance wholesaler on a national capacity building strategy
- Developed a code of conduct for its members.
- Collaborates with government and donor agencies
- Organizes workshops on microfinance programs and innovations in microfinance

Funding

Sources

- Grants
- Fees from services
- Membership fees

Funding Partners

- Ford foundation
- Hivos
- SIDA

Website

<http://www.mea.org.za>

Newsletter

N/A

Events Organized

- Workshop on microfinance programs in April 2000
- Workshop on innovations in microfinance in March 2001
- Hosted the meeting of the Regional Program to Build Microfinance Networks in Africa held in July 2000

BOLIVIA MODEL FINRURAL

Since the early 1990s, Bolivia has boasted successful microfinance institutions (MFIs) that have transformed from NGOs into regulated commercial institutions, including BancoSol, the first transformed microlender. Bolivia's commercial microfinance experience took on a new dimension in the late 1990s, as transformed MFIs grew and consumer lenders began overlapping with microfinance markets. This increase in competition converged with a major recession in Bolivia. These events led to a crisis in which borrowers became over indebted and institutions suffered falling profits and dangerously high delinquency rates.

Structure

- Established in 1993 as a non-profit organization
- 14 members including private donor funds, MFIs and savings and credit co-operatives
- Body: information unavailable

Mission

- Seeks to promote the development of microfinance institutions (MFIs) in Bolivia.

Long term objectives

- Develop a service to evaluate the social and economic impact of financial products for customers of microfinance institutions in Bolivia; and,
- Encourage MFIs to adopt systems of impact evaluation as a tool of analysis used to define policies and strategies of customer service.

Activities

- Develop and offer a 'microfinance impact evaluation service in order to measure and evaluate the economic and social impact, on clients, of the financial programmes of micro-financial institutions

- Developing methodologies to evaluate client loyalty, drop out rates and defaults on loans within MFIs
- Studies on dynamics of poverty and strategies for poverty reduction

Funding

Funding Partners

- EU
- Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)
- Corporacion Andina de Fomento (CAF)

Website

N/A

Newsletter

N/A

Events Organized

No information available

THE PHILIPPINES MODEL

The Microfinance Council of the Philippines, Inc. (MCPI)

The practice and provision of microfinance has been growing in the Philippines. This increase is driven by the numerous empirical evidence and many success stories that demonstrate microfinance as an effective tool for economic development.

Microfinance provides the necessary push for micro-enterprises to help them grow. This bears significance for the Philippines where micro, small and medium enterprises make up 99.6% of our total industries and employ 70% of our workforce. It becomes even more significant when we learn that around 4.1 million families belonging to the lowest income strata are engaged in micro-enterprise activities. Without access to financial services, these micro-enterprises are forced to rely on more expensive sources of credit such as informal money lenders which limits their capacity to grow their businesses. It is clear therefore that by invigorating these micro-enterprises, microfinance can have a direct contribution and impact for economic development and poverty alleviation. Microfinance can then empower the many Filipinos living in poverty to increase their economic activity and income, build up assets, prepare against emergencies and better invest in education, health, and housing thereby improving the overall quality of their lives. In addition, the benefits go beyond the client's household. These micro-businesses generate the much needed employment and increase the economic activity in local economies.

Structure

- 34 member institutions (26 practitioners and 8 service providers)
- Members consist of NGOs, banks, cooperatives and credit unions. To become a regular member, the MFI must have a minimum number of 3,000 microfinance active borrowers and savers and a loan portfolio outstanding of at least roughly US\$200,000.
- Governing body: 7 members of the Board of Trustees elected by the regular members
- Secretariat: a full-time Secretariat staff of five (5) persons

Mission

- Reduce poverty in the Philippines through equitable access to financial and non-financial services, help build the capacity of members to serve poor households in a sustainable, innovative, and client-responsive manner and pursue the highest global standards of excellence in governance, stewardship, and service towards staff, clients and poor communities served

Long Term Objectives

- To help members serve significant numbers of poor households with financial and non-financial services
- To promote the adoption of poverty assessment tools and social performance monitoring systems
- To promote the adoption of and adherence to international performance standards
- To advocate for a policy environment that is conducive to the growth and development of a market-oriented microfinance sector
- To help build members' capacity for innovation that enhances the development of a market oriented microfinance sector
- To promote market-oriented microfinance products and services
- To initiate the conduct of international and national forums for best practice microfinance
- To mobilize resources and to network with government, donors, funding agencies, investors, and financial markets in order to enhance the development of the microfinance sector

Activities

- MCPI has forged local partnership with government agencies and institutions

Funding

No available information

Website

<http://www.microfinancecouncil.org/>

Newsletter

N/A

Events Organized

- Social Performance Management Workshop for Luzon MFIs in Jan 2006
- Microfinance symposium that shows how to empower the poor

INDIA MODEL

Sa-Dhan – The Association of Community Development Finance Institutions

In the early 1980s, the Indian government realized the need for microfinance to provide the rural poor with savings and microcredit services. Loans available through microcredit schemes were more accessible to the poor people as compared to bank loans. It also compared favorably with non-institutional money lenders in terms of cost.

In the late 1990s, the microfinance business was boosted by the innovative initiatives taken up by microfinance institutions (MFIs), non-governmental institutions (NGOs) and banks. They offered micro-credit i.e. credit provided to poor people for financial and business services and for self employment in rural areas.

It fulfilled their basic needs and emergency requirements. The microfinance business had the ability to reach the most deserving people and also increased the repayment rates for banks, which were, at the time, burdened by mounting non-performing assets (NPAs) on the rural credit extended by them.

The year 2005 has seen significant initiatives in the microfinance sector. The Indian budget has, for the first time, recognized the role of microfinance institutions. This has created a strong possibility for innovation for extending the outreach of financial services through models like the banking correspondent, the agency model and provided for long standing demands such as a window for External Commercial Borrowings. Microfinance institutions have made a concerted push for regulation and are in the process of drafting the first Microfinance Regulation and Development Bill. A number of state governments have begun to develop vision plans for the microfinance sector.

Structure

- Formed in 1998
- Approximately 27 main members
- Members: Sa-Dhan's members include NGOs, non-banking finance companies, professional support organizations and specialized networks
- Board of members with a chair, co-chair and treasurer

- Secretariat

Mission

- To build the field of community development finance, helping member and associate institutions in rendering better services ,to low income households, particularly women, in both rural and urban India, in their quest for establishing stable livelihoods and improving their quality of life.

Long term objectives

- To provide a forum for organizations and individuals engaged in the field of community development finance to share and exchange experiences, expertise and resources
- To serve as a catalyst for building these institutions
- To strengthen the capacities of community development finance institutions (CDFIs) through research, consultancy and training in different aspects
- To disseminate and publish sound financial practices from both national and international
- To act as a self regulating organization for community development finance institution and seek recognition from relevant regulatory
- To establish linkages between numbers and resources institutions such as funding agencies, financial institutions, rating agencies, training and consultancy and research institutions
- To establish minimum standard of performance, both developmental and financial aspects which members have to adhere
- To work with other networking and coalition of community development finance institutions
- To represent its members in governmental agencies such as RBI, and other regulatory and policy making bodies so as to promote community development finance and help create a favorable policy environment at national and international level etc.

Activities

No information available

Funding

Funding Partners

- HUDCO,
- HDFC
- Friends of Women's World Banking, India (FWWB)

Website

N/A

Newsletter

Yes

Events Organized

- Sa-Dhan's Annual Policy Conference
- Sa-Dhan's Education Program (offers a well-rounded overview of a wide range of issues that allow participants to deepen their understanding in Microfinance and Livelihood Promotion issues)

THE ARAB WORLD MODEL

The Microfinance Network of the Arab Countries – SANABEL Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia, and Yemen

The microfinance industry is growing rapidly in the Arab world, providing financial services and supporting opportunities for millions of poor people. However, with most poor people still lacking access to basic financial services, microfinance has yet to reach its full potential. One of the key challenges to the development of financial services for the poor is the lack of reliable, comparable and publicly available information on the performance of microfinance institutions (MFIs).

Structure

- Launched September 2002
- Sanabel has a General Assembly, an Executive Committee of five members from five different countries (Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia, Egypt and Jordan), and an acting director

Mission

- Maximize outreach to Arab microentrepreneurs by providing microfinance institutions with a forum for mutual learning and exchange, capacity building services, and advocacy for best practice microfinance

Long Term Objectives

- Enhance the capacity of MFIs through training, translation, MIS, capitalization
- Promote and facilitate exchanges between MFIs through annual conferences, information exchanges, bringing microfinance to other countries
- Improve standards of practice and encourage transparency through benchmarks, external audit/appraisal/rating and participation in the Microfinance Information eXchange (MIX)
- Promote an enabling environment for best practice microfinance through public awareness, regulatory education

Funding

Funding Partners

- The Rockdale Foundation

Activities

- Trainings
- Writing manuals for microfinance

Website

<http://www.sanabelnetwork.org/default.htm>

Newsletter

N/A

Events Organized

- Annual conference 2003, 2004, 2005

AZERBAIJAN MODEL

Azerbaijan Microfinance Association (AMFA)

Structure

- Created in 2001
- 14 member associations.
- Members: International NGOs (FINCA, ACDI/VOCA, OXFAM...), MF bank of Azerbaijan, German Azerbaijan Fund.
- Board – Chairman, treasurer, and coordinator

Mission

- Strengthen the capacity of micro-finance institutions and to promote effective collective action in advancing the interests of the micro-finance community and its clients

Long term objectives

- The achievement of a legal and regulatory framework within the Republic of Azerbaijan that fosters and supports micro-finance best practice service delivery.

- The establishment of an on-going constructive dialogue with the government of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the media and other stakeholders
- The growth of a microfinance sector within Azerbaijan that actively promotes transparency, accountability and microfinance best practices.

Activities

- Developing a performance monitoring system – Matrix System – to track major portfolio quality indicators on quarterly basis. Currently, all 14 members and 3 non-member agencies provide their respective performance information using this matrix.
- Regular monthly meetings and networking of the member organizations to establish collaborative relationship among MFIs, Donors, Funds and Banks. As a result of these meetings, a consensus has been reached among lending institutions on information sharing.
- Provision of training in cooperation with accredited international organizations (MFC)
- Developing unified approaches to many policy issues benefiting AMFA members

Funding

Sources

- International NGOs

Website

<http://www.azerweb.com/amfa>

Newsletter

N/A

Events Organized

N/A