



**Microfinance Pasifika**

**3<sup>rd</sup> PACIFIC MICROFINANCE WEEK 2011**

**26-29 July 2011**

**Port Vila, Vanuatu**

*Partnerships, new opportunities to build a brighter  
financial future*

**Event Program – DRAFT 6 May 2011**



# Microfinance Pasifika

OFFICIAL OPENING Tuesday, 26 <sup>nd</sup> July 2011	
Opening	
2.00 – 4.00 pm	Registration
4.00 – 4.15 pm	Welcome
4:15-4:30pm	Introduction
4:30-5:30pm	Keynote Address for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> PMW 2011
5.30 – 7:00 pm	Opening Cocktail
7.00 – 9.00 pm	Dinner (TBA)

<b>DAY 1 OPENING PLENARY SESSION</b> <b>Wednesday, 27<sup>nd</sup> July 2011</b>	
8.00 – 9.00 am	<b>Registration</b>
9.00 – 10.30 am	<b>Session 1: Global Trends and the Future of Microfinance</b>
	<i>There are many financial service providers globally that have developed innovative systems and procedures to ensure that they become more effective, efficient and relevant to the needs of their clients. In this session we will hear from a wide range of financial service providers that have developed innovative products but also have a wider knowledge of global developments.</i>
10.30-11.00 am	<b>MORNING TEA</b>
11:00-12:30 pm	<b>Session 2: Leading Developments to Watch in the Pacific</b>
	<i>What are the current innovations and new initiatives in the delivery of microfinance in the Pacific? Some service providers have managed to pursue partnerships, methodologies and systems that work in the Pacific. We hear from some of the providers and have an opportunity to learn and then discuss their innovative methods and initiatives.</i>
12.30 – 1.30 pm	<b>LUNCH</b>
1.30 – 2.30 pm	<b>Session 3: Pacific Islanders Demand for Financial Services</b>
	<i>What are some of the unique features of the demand for financial services in the Pacific? We cover the experiences of our service providers, commercial banks, microfinance institutions and insurance companies on how they have developed financial services and what they feel are the gaps in meeting the needs of the Pacific.</i>
2.30-3.30 pm	<b>Session 4: Developing a National Strategy for Financial Inclusion; Best Practices and Benefits</b>
	<i>There has been some work in several Pacific countries to bring financial inclusion to the forefront of national development priorities and to develop a national strategic plan for financial inclusion and financial literacy. A few stakeholders in this process will present and offer their insight to how they work within a national strategy framework.</i>
3.30 – 4.00pm	<b>AFTERNOON TEA</b>
4.00 – 5.00 pm	<b>Session 5: Focus on Vanuatu</b>
	<i>We take a moment to focus on the financial service provided in our host country, Vanuatu. What is the Vanuatu financial landscape and how has it developed over the years to provide financial services to all economic groups in the country?</i>
6:00-8:00pm	<b>PFIP Hosted “Cocktails and Kava with the Experts”</b>
	<i>Come and spend time with some of our regional and international panellists and presenters around the kava bowl in your best Bula/ Talofa attire and get those questions answered. It’s a great way to make connections and friends.</i>
<b>End of Day 1</b>	



<b>DAY 2 - Option A: EXPANDING OUTREACH TO LOW INCOME DISADVANTAGED AND RURAL CLIENTS</b> <b>Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> July 2011</b>	
9.00 – 10.00 am	<b>Session 6: Overcoming the Distribution Challenge</b>  <i>While electronic platforms for financial services have been developed, a huge barrier remains in making sure there are appropriate agents with sufficient cash in rural areas. We will hear from distribution experts that have faced this challenge in their countries.</i>
10.00 – 11.00 am	<b>Session 7: Financial Competency: Focus on Measurement</b>  <i>Financial literacy has recently gained the attention of policy makers; some of who have made an effort to develop a national coordinated approach to improving financial competence of their populations. This includes efforts to bring financial literacy training into the schools, and reach adults. This session will examine the established baselines and measurement methods and indicators that will help Pacific island countries gauge the success of these interventions.</i>
11.00 – 11.30 am	MONRING TEA
11.30 – 12.30 am	<b>Session 8: Financial Inclusion &amp; Women</b>  <i>There are a many microfinance programmes and services that provide services to women. However, several studies and experiences have shown that putting financial resources in the hands of women does not necessarily empower women - there are still gaps. We hear from service providers and from clients that reveal how microfinance services have improved their lives and the lives of their families.</i>
12.30– 1.30 pm	LUNCH
1.30 – 3.00 pm	<b>Session 9: The Role of Commercial Banks in the Provision of Rural Financial Services</b>  <i>In the last two years many commercial banks operating in the Pacific have increased their role in the sector by downscaling their services to providing microfinance products. What are some experts advising us about commercial banks entering this market, particularly in rural areas, it's benefits and risks? We hear from the banks and experts in this field and discuss these implications.</i>
3.00 – 3.30 pm	AFTERNOON TEA
3:30 – 5:00 pm	<b>Session 10: Microinsurance: The Fastest Growing Microfinance Product in the World</b>  <i>Microinsurance is becoming a commonplace globally particularly to address the demands of the poor. This trend has arisen out of the need for poor households to have access to insurance that will offer some form of protection against the risks of loss of life, assets, crops and other lifetime risks. We hear in this session of the global trends, the innovative insurance products that have been developed and which have gained much success. We also have some leaders here in the Pacific that will share their experiences of developing microinsurance products.</i>
End of Day 2	

<b>DAY 2 Option B: IFC: MFIs RISK ASSESSMENT MANAGEMENT Workshop</b> <b>Thursday, 28th July 2011</b>	
9.00-11:00	<b>Session 1: Introduction into Risk Management</b>
10.30 – 11.00 am	<i>MORNING TEA</i>
11:30-12:30:	<b>Session 2: Risk Assessment and Development of Solutions</b>
12.30– 1.30 pm	<i>LUNCH</i>
1:30-3:30pm	<b>Session 3: Development of Risk Policies</b>
3.00 –3.30 pm	<i>AFTERNOON TEA</i>
3:30 – 5:00	<b>Session 4: Recommendations</b>
<b>End of Day 2</b>	

<b>DAY 3 – Option A: Donors and Regulators, Building an Inclusive Financial System</b> <b>Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> July 2011</b>	
9.00 – 10.30 am	<b>Session 11: Donor Pacific Cooperation to extend financial inclusion</b>
	<i>Donors have increased contributions to financial inclusion and financial literacy efforts in the Pacific. What are their concerns and plans for the future? Are their plans for more partnerships in the future?</i>
10.30 – 11.00 am	<i>MORNING TEA</i>
11.00 – 12.00 pm	<b>Session 12: Regulators Take the Lead</b>
	<i>In 2009 the South Pacific Central Bank Governors Meeting created a regional working group on financial inclusion. Since that time, central banks in the region have recently added financial inclusion as part of their function, often taking a lead role in not only enabling, but also promoting financial inclusion. Central Bank involvement has not been without its challenges, contradictions and setbacks. In this session central banks offer their experiences and future plans for the development of microfinance in each country.</i>
12.00– 12.30 pm	<b>Closing Session</b>
	<i>Wrap-up of proceedings, reflections on insights, and outcomes statement.</i>
12.30-1.30 pm	<i>LUNCH</i>
<b>End of Day 3</b>	

<b>DAY 3 - Option: B PFIP Sponsored G2P &amp; Savings Workshops</b> <b>Friday, 29th July 2011</b>	
9:00-12:00pm	<b>Workshop 1: Designing Savings Products People Value</b>
12.30– 1.30 pm	<i>LUNCH</i>
1:30-5.00 pm	<b>Workshop 2: Government to Person Payments as a means to promote transparency and financial inclusion</b>
<b>End of Day 3</b>	