



Microfinance Pasifika Network News

Asia-Pacific Regional Microcredit Summit

Join 2006 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Muhammad Yunus of the Grameen Bank at the [Asia-Pacific Regional Microcredit Summit](#) to be held in Bali, Indonesia from July 28-30, 2008. Register before May 31st to take advantage of discounted early registration rates. The conference will be co-hosted by the [Microcredit Summit Campaign](#) and [Gema PKM Indonesia](#) and provides an opportunity for microfinance practitioners to share best practices, discuss technological and structural innovation, and network with other practitioners and representatives from the field.

For more information, visit www.inamicrocreditsummit.org or e-mail info@microcreditsummit.org.

First Online Discussion Session Held in the Pacific Resource Centre for Microfinance

During April the Microfinance Pasifika Network held its first online discussion session in the Pacific Resource Centre for Microfinance.

The first session discussed “**Can mobile phones or other similar technology improve the viability of doing microfinance in the Pacific?**” and was hosted by Ms Luse Kinivuwai the Chair of the Microfinance Pasifika Network and the Director of the Microfinance Unit of National Centre for Small & Micro Enterprise Development (Fiji).

A copy of the discussion is available here:

<http://www.microfinance-pasifika.org/forums/index.php?topic=9.0>

For all of those who were interested in the discussion but were unable to participate on the day, it is still possible to post any questions or comments on the discussion forum for other registered users to respond too.

To post on the discussion forum it is necessary to be a registered user, to sign up for an account go to:

<http://www.microfinance-pasifika.org/forums/index.php?action=register>

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Microfinance Pasifika Member News

- ❖ **Wau Microbank Limited: History and Current Services**
In 2002, the Government of PNG and ADB decided to initiate the PNG-ADB Microfinance and Employment Project to address the financial needs of poor people of PNG in general and micro, small and medium enterprises in particular.

As a major component of the project; micro banking piloting was started in 2004 at Wau, to pilot the microfinance program in PNG. The pilot scheme was successfully implemented and transformed it into a commercially viable business entity under the business name of Wau Micro Bank Ltd (WMBL) in 2006.

It is the first micro bank licensed by Bank of Papua New Guinea (BPNG) and dedicated to providing financial services to micro and small entrepreneurs and general public of PNG on sustainable basis. [More....](#)

Microfinance News

- ❖ **FDC Awarded Grant from Western Union Foundation for Pacific Initiative**
The Foundation for Development Cooperation has been awarded a grant from the Western Union Foundation to undertake an initiative in the Pacific entitled: "Development and Dissemination of Financial Literacy Materials Targeted at Poor Remittance-Receiving Households in the Pacific Islands (including Fiji islands, Timor-Leste, Samoa and Tonga)". Further details about the initiative will be available in the coming months.
- ❖ **Pacific Economic Survey**
The Pacific Economic Survey 2008 is the first of a series of annual reports on the economic performance of Pacific island countries and Timor-Leste. It was prepared by AusAID, with regional consultation, to promote discussion and debate on the regional economic outlook and to focus on ways to reduce poverty and promote development. [More...](#)
- ❖ **Employment Opportunity: NZAID Economics Advisor**
NZAID has an employment opportunity available within their Strategy, Advisory and Evaluation Group, for a qualified economist to join a small team of highly committed advisors providing advice and analytical support to New Zealand's multilateral, regional and bilateral development assistance programmes. Applications close at 5pm Friday, 16 May 2008. [More...](#)



The MF Pasifika Network is an initiative of [The Foundation for Development Cooperation](#)

If your organisation is interested in becoming joining the Microfinance Pasifika, information is available online at <http://www.microfinance-pasifika.org/membership.html>.



If you have an announcement that you would like publicised in our newsletter or on our website, please contact us at: info@microfinance-pasifika.org



Microfinance Pasifika

❖ **Participatory Project Management (PPM) Workshop**

Suva, Fiji

15th-17th July 2008

The purpose of this workshop is to learn practical and participatory project management skills, which are used in community development (CD) projects in the Asia Pacific Region. The three main project management methodologies introduced are Project Cycle Management (PCM); Participatory Learning and Action (PLA), and the Logical Framework Approach (LFA), or Log-frames for short. We will also be reviewing projects in the light of AusAID's latest Annual Review of Development Effectiveness (ARDE), 2007. [More...](#)

❖ **Mobile banking to transform microfinance: CGAP finds market conditions mean benefits for poor still several years away**

WASHINGTON - (April 30, 2008) A new report from the global microfinance body CGAP predicts that, with the right market conditions, mobile banking could reach large numbers of poor people who are outside the formal financial system. The Early Experience with Branchless Banking calls for the development of interoperable payments platforms, practical and risk-based approaches to regulation, as well as shared networks of cash-handling agents. There is also a need for product development that overcomes the lack of human interaction and reliability concerns that may hinder customer adoption today. [More...](#)

❖ **Pacific Resource Centre for Microfinance**

We are currently seeking expressions of interest from individuals and organisations who would be interested in being a guest host in the coming months on the discussion forums. If anyone has a specific issue or theme concerning financial inclusion in the Pacific that they would like to see discussed please let us know.

To do so email your suggestions to info@microfinance-pasifika.org or alternatively post your comments on the online discussion forum at:
<http://www.microfinance-pasifika.org/forums/index.php?topic=6.0>

Please feel free to distribute the MF Pasifika E-newsletter among friends and colleagues.

If you want to **subscribe** to our E-newsletter, [click here](#).

Contact Us

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