



## Microfinance Pasifika Network News

### 2008 Microfinance Pasifika Network Membership Drive

Microfinance Pasifika Network is currently on a membership drive for 2008. We are seeking members from various stakeholders who have an interest in supporting financial inclusion in the Pacific.

Members of the network may be drawn from various organisations including: national level policy institutions, NGO's, microfinance institutions, regulated financial institutions, support organisations, donors and international agencies. Various types of membership are available for different stakeholders, further details about each type is available on our website.

Benefits of membership are varied and may include:

- ❖ participation in national and regional program of activities (like [Pacific Microfinance Week 2007](#))
- ❖ access to training and technical assistance
- ❖ networking
- ❖ dissemination of member's work
- ❖ member's only access to the Pacific Resource Centre for Microfinance.

Benefits of membership will continue to grow as the network develops further.

Membership fees for 2008 are US \$200 for non-profit organisations and US \$500 for all other institutions.

If your organisation is interested in becoming a Microfinance Pasifika member in 2008 further information is available on our website at <http://www.microfinance-pasifika.org/membership.html> or contact us by email at [info@microfinance-pasifika.org](mailto:info@microfinance-pasifika.org).

An online application form for Microfinance Pasifika membership is now available online at:

- ❖ <http://www.microfinance-pasifika.org/microfinance-pasifika-online-membership-form>.

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## Microfinance Pasifika

### Microfinance Pasifika Member News

- ❖ **PNG Microfinance Limited - Microfinance Radio Program**  
PNG Microfinance Ltd (PML) has launched a weekly watch radio programme to inform the public on the types of financial services it provides especially to the informal sector. Launched on FM100 during October, the concept of the microfinance weekly programme was patterned from BBC radio's microfinance show. The weekly programme also will inform the public why PML was incorporated and will update its shareholders on the percentage of shareholdings and on the recent decisions of the board. [More...](#)

### Microfinance News

- ❖ **FT and IFC launch 2008 Sustainable Banking Awards**  
The Financial Times, in partnership with IFC, the private sector arm of the World Bank Group, launched the 2008 edition of the FT Sustainable Banking Awards. Two new categories -- Banking at the Bottom of the Pyramid, and Sustainable Investor of the Year -- have been added to the ground-breaking programme. The Awards, now in their third year, were created by the FT and IFC to recognise banks that have shown leadership and innovation in integrating social, environmental and corporate governance objectives into their operations. Applications for the awards close February 29, 2008. Further information regarding the awards is [available here](#).
- ❖ **The Global Microfinance Investment Congress**  
May 14—16, 2008  
New York City, USA  
The Premier Event for the Leaders in Microfinance  
Produced by PlaNNet Finance in association with the American Conference Institute  
[www.microfinancecongress.com](http://www.microfinancecongress.com)
- ❖ **Asia/Pacific Region Microcredit Summit to be Relocated and Postponed**  
Due to recent events in Pakistan, the Asia/Pacific Region Microcredit Summit will be relocated to another country and postponed. The Microcredit Summit Campaign hopes to announce the new location and exact dates for the Asia/Pacific Region Microcredit Summit 2008 as soon as the information becomes available. For the moment, registration has been suspended until a Registrar in the new location has been established.



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

If your organisation is interested in becoming a member of 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](mailto:info@microfinance-pasifika.org)



## Microfinance Pasifika

### ❖ **eBay-Owned MicroPlace Launches Website for Retail Investment in Microfinance**

MicroPlace, a wholly-owned subsidiary of eBay Inc., recently announced the launch of a new website ([www.microplace.com](http://www.microplace.com)) that provides the first online marketplace for everyday people to invest in microfinance and earn a financial return. With the new site, investors can purchase microfinance securities with as little as \$100 using eBay's PayPal service or a U.S. bank checking account, and have the option to direct their investment to a specific country and microfinance institution in the developing world.

[More...](#)

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](#).

## Microfinance Publications

### ❖ **Grameen Foundation Launches Village Phone Direct Manual**

Grameen Foundation and the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) have launched the Village Phone Direct Manual to guide microfinance institutions (MFIs) and other organisations in developing microfranchise Village Phone operations. The manual provides MFIs and other organizations with the resources and information they need to independently develop a local, targeted Village Phone product for their clients. [More...](#)

### ❖ **Finance for All? Policies and Pitfalls in Expanding Access**

A new World Bank policy research report entitled *Finance for All? Policies and Pitfalls in Expanding Access* finds that between 50-80% of adults in many developing countries have inadequate access to financial services. A copy of the report is [available here](#).

### ❖ **Pacific Resource Centre for Microfinance**

If you have any papers, publications etc. that you would like to see featured in the Pacific Resource Centre for Microfinance which is located on the Microfinance Pasifika website, please don't hesitate to email the information to [info@microfinance-pasifika.org](mailto:info@microfinance-pasifika.org).

## Contact Us

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