

Microfinance Without Borders

Training, technology and investment to improve Microfinance performance

Microfinance: the quiet revolution for the poor to help themselves

Microfinance (MF), small business loans and other financial services to the poor, is creating opportunities for people to change their lives. It's a hand up, not a hand out

MF is improving the lives of 100 million people, and the target of 500 million by 2015 is a big jump. These microfinance institutions (MFIs) the provide services to the poor need to upgrade their systems, get investments and serve more clients. This is where MWB offers training to improve MF performance, both in the UK and in Microfinance Institutions.

You can train in the UK as a 'MWB coach' and be part of the team

- Although you may already have accounting, marketing, business or related skills, you need **training in the microfinance sector**, how it is similar and different to other businesses, its challenges, how to be part of a team.
- Your **supervised field work (one month's minimum)** will be in selected MFIs in the **MWB two year development programme**
- Once you have done your field work and return to your 'regular job' or other work, you will be **part of the MWB network** that coaches our partner MFIs throughout their two year development programme.

Our distance learning courses start in March 2008

Format: distance learning (self-study materials plus tutorials and assignments)

Course & target audience	Content Dates	Format	Fee
MF Passport: practitioners, entrepreneurs, banking or finance professionals, researchers, students, career seekers or investors	foundation course about the main issues and challenges in the MF sector March to June, 2008 First tutorial 11th March, 6-8 pm, central London venue	-4 months' distance learning with tutorial support -Includes optional visit to MF in India (one week) -includes listening to debate by MF experts	£900 in UK, Europe, US excluding cost of India travel & accommodation
Accounting and Management Information Systems: finance, accounting or business experience able to read a balance sheet and prepare a set of accounts	accounting for MFIs to equip you to coach in a MFI to improve their financial systems May-June, 2008	-2 months' distance learning with tutorial support -Successful participants work for a minimum of one month in selected MFIs in Tanzania	£900 in UK, Europe, US excluding cost of Tanzania travel & accommodation
Marketing for clients and products: finance, accounting, marketing or business experience	Marketing for MFIs to equip you to coach in a MFI to improve their marketing strategy June to July, 2008	-2 months' distance learning with tutorial support -Successful participants work for a minimum of one month in selected MFIs in Tanzania	£900 in UK, Europe, US excluding cost of Tanzania travel & accommodation

Participants in Accounting or Marketing courses can be eligible for doing the month's placement in Tanzania

For more information and application forms, contact

www.microfinancewithoutborders.com

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What will I be doing as a MWB Coach?

After MWB training and selection for field work you or the people you sponsor will be on the MWB team that

- Coaches in our partner Microfinance Institutions
- Tracks their performance towards becoming 'investment fit'
- Assists in improving their technology
- Takes part in a dynamic MWB network

How do participating Microfinance Institutions benefit?

As selected participants on the MWB two-year development programme they get training, coaching, technological assistance to become credit-worthy for investments, enabling their growth by

- Acquiring skills for becoming financially sustainable
- Improving their performance to serve their clients better
- Creating better products that suit clients' needs
- Developing systems for future use of Mobile phone-Microfinance banking
- Increasing efficiency and lowering interest rates

What are the benefits for me as a MWB Coach and sponsoring organisations?

- Making an impact on poverty by developing sustainable financial infrastructures
- Learning about 'leading edge' technology innovation at the grassroots level
- Combining theoretical and practical knowledge in emerging markets
- Being involved with the challenges for the 2 billion people in the world who want to improve their lives
- Transforming perspectives on how to do 'social business'
- Gaining skills for working in microfinance while making a difference

Why do UK participants pay fees and their own costs?

Microfinance without Borders is a not-for-profit organisation set up by three Microfinance specialists--Dr Phyllis SantaMaria, Andy Robb and Mosleh Ahmed -- to bridge the Microfinance training and growth gap for interested UK individuals and organisations.

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We are self-funding and invite participants to co-fund for their own development and participation. This is a targeted opportunity to make a lasting difference and be part of a team with MFIs in a structured two-year development programme.

We are developing and running the courses together with Plural India, a social enterprise for MF training and development. www.pluralindia.in