

Directions and actions emerging from the microFinance Colloquium 2010



microFinance Colloquium organised by Centre for microFinance (CmF), Jaipur, has emerged as an important event for community-based microFinance and Self Help Group movement. All stakeholders — participant community, SHG-promoting institutions (SHPIs), banks, research institutions, government, individual trainers and experts — come together on one platform, exchange their experiences, learn from one another, deliberate on issues of concern to the poor, women and the marginalised, exchange ideas and explore possible solutions to the challenges being faced. This year the microFinance Colloquium — the fifth in the series — was held during October 4-6, 2010 in Jaipur,

Rajasthan.

'Financial Inclusion through community-based microFinance' was the central theme of the event.

Day 1: Meeting of SHG leaders to articulate their vision of SHG movement and Issues- Inaugurated by Hon Minister Rural Development Govt. of Raj

Day 2: Bankers Conclave to explore the possibility of bankers focused engagement with SHGs for credit to Poor- Inaugurated by Dr. C Rangarajan

Day 3: Micro Finance Practitioners Summit to identify the challenges and gaps in the ongoing microfinance programmes and deliberate on the ways and means to address these.



The directions and actions that emerged from the deliberations are as follows:

- Capacity building of 1.5 lakh (60% of 2.6 lakh) existing SHGs
- Formation of 3 lakh new SHGs (focussing on quality)
- Universal Coverage – going beyond BPL

- Formation of federations to ensure quality and sustainability
- Adopt a uniform approach
- District initiatives in partnership with banks – MOU with banks (Cooperative bank; UCO bank; BoB expressed willingness)
- Committed investments – State Govt.; Banks; Private Donors
- Banks to play the role of equal partner in the programme involved in right from formation stage of SHGs (Banks to invest on promotion and capacity building of SHGs)
- Process simplification to ensure faster SHG-Bank linkages
- SPV – Credit for lending to SHGs/ SHG Federation
- Advocate for sub-group in SLBC for monitoring SHG bank linkage
- Developing dedicated human resource for various level of the programme
- Sensitization programmes for bankers
- Develop leaders CRPs as key agents for promoting SHGs
- Developing contextual materials/ knowledge products/ dissemination of best practices
- Design & offering relevant and contextual capacity building programmes for various stakeholders
- Developing authentic database/ MIS platform for the programme
- Emphasis on graduating to livelihood finance from microfinance