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Utilizing Agricultural Value Chain Development to Accelerate Financial Inclusion & Women Empowerment in Rural Africa

This one-week interactive experiential learning based executive training is the first of its kind. It is designed to enhance the participants’ basic knowledge to advanced practical knowledge with regard to the provision of a wide range of need-based customer-centric responsible financial services with specific emphasis on responsible microfinance, sustained financial inclusion, advanced credit risk, financial analysis, agricultural value chain, women empowerment models, corporate governance, governance of risk management, governance of compensation, governance of audits, management information system (MIS), regulation and supervision, customer protection, RegTech, social performance management, digital finance, FinTech, SME banking etc.

11th-15th May, 2020 Nairobi, Kenya

THE FINANCIAL INCLUSION ADVOCACY CENTRE

The Financial Inclusion Advocacy Centre is an international action-oriented and practice based think-tank geared toward promoting sustained financial inclusion and responsible microfinance.

The Financial Inclusion Advocacy Centre’s mission is to build the institutional strength and outreach of the inclusive finance sector, by providing a full range of high-quality, best-practice technical inputs and support to all industry stakeholders, in a sustainable and demand-driven manner. As an independent support centre, FIAC is committed to promoting innovations, transparency, and enhanced access/outreach especially to the poor and thereby contributing to United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG # 1) and its sub-goals, which include achieving 100% financial inclusion by 2030 across the globe.

COURSE OBJECTIVE:

The Financial Inclusion Advocacy Centre is a professional body that provides practical state-of-the-art training and courses pertaining to various facets of Microfinance and Financial Inclusion.

Many microfinance institutions are facing increasing competition, tougher regulation and/or are branching out to embrace new market segments with innovative products. Financial inclusion Advocacy Centre proudly presents the “Utilizing Agricultural Value Chain Development to Accelerate Financial Inclusion & Women Empowerment in Rural Africa” course. This 2020 program seeks to equip participants with state-of-the-art technical know-how in the Principles of Responsible Microfinance, Sustained Financial Inclusion, Women Empowerment Models, Agricultural value Chain Development, Advanced Credit Risk, Financial Analysis & Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), Innovative Product Development & Pricing Strategies, Corporate Governance, Governance of Risk Management, Governance of Compensation, Governance of Audits, Management Information System (MIS), Social Performance Management, Digital Finance and FinTech, SME Banking, Regulation and Supervisions (including RegTech) and a good understanding of newer trends in the financial inclusion space. This Utilizing Agricultural Value Chain Development to Accelerate Financial Inclusion & Women Empowerment in Rural Africa is:
Session # 1: Responsible Microfinance & Financial Inclusion: Towards A New Paradigm, Salient Issues & Tracking Accountable Progress

Session # 2: Advanced Credit Risk: Principles and Techniques

Session # 3: Financial Analysis, Principles and Techniques and Key Performance Indicators

Session # 4: FinTech, Digitization, Digital Divide and Key Issues

Session # 5: Strategic Planning, Products and Pricing

Session # 6: Financial Inclusion of Agriculture and Value Chain Finance: Critical issues

Session # 7: SME Banking

Session # 8: Attracting Top Notch Investors: What MFIs and Banks must do? The Role of Corporate Governance, Risk Management, Governance of Compensation, Audits, MIS and Related Areas in MFIs and FIs

Session # 9: Regulation and Supervision for Sustained Financial Inclusion, RegTech and Customer Protection

Session # 10: Presentation by Participants in Small Groups, their key learning’s based on assigned reading (Best Seller Microfinance and Financial Novel Used in Many Universities Globally, Rapid Reader) given on
**INTERACTIVE**

The teaching methodology is based on solid experiential learning and it has minimal lectures. Sessions have extensive group work, real life case analysis, group and plenary discussions and individual, group and plenary presentations.

**PROFOUND**

Sufficient time is allotted to each of these complex technical modules to ensure maximization in the learning.

**INDIVIDUAL**

Participants will be exposed to an array of technical and innovative developments in the microfinance and financial inclusion space and will get the time to network with each other as well. State of the out knowledge will also be provided.

**FACULTY**

Facilitators with several decades of solid exposure to the financial inclusion sector and related fields share their diverse experiences from across the world to set up a truly unique learning experience.

Who should join the Executive Microfinance & Financial Inclusion School?

This programme is targeted at microfinance managers focused on taking their institutions to the next level, fund managers, commercial banks and other stakeholders active in the inclusive finance, microfinance, regulatory & supervisory and capacity building domains.
TUITION AND ACCOMMODATION EXPENSES

The total fee for the Executive Micro finance & Financial Inclusion School is $2,500. This fee includes the course fee, all training materials and full-board accommodation in single rooms for the time of training.
Handouts, documentation and background literature will be assembled in a comprehensive participant hand book which will also be provided on USB device by the end of the training.
Delegates will be picked from the airport to the hotel.
The fees also include two guided Safari Tours on two evenings & a dinner.

FACULTY

Hand-selected faculty with many years of exposure and experience gained from both academia and industry share their experience with the delegates. For this course the faculty are:

1) Ramesh S. Arunachalam, 56 years of age, is an international development expert with financial sector, microfinance and financial inclusion, private sector, livelihoods, agriculture, MSME, fisheries, rural development, high end technology and digitization experience spanning nearly 30 years. He also has significant monitoring and evaluation experience in all areas of specialization mentioned above. He has carried out 310 professional assignments and worked in about 30 countries in North America, Asia, Africa, Europe and the Caribbean, with a strong focus on Asia/Africa. He has provided strategic advisory, capacity building & training (around 500 trainings), monitoring & evaluation, research & other technical assistance services to multi-lateral & bi-lateral agencies, commercial banks, development & investment banks, NBFIs, Other MFIs, cooperatives, credit unions, the private sector, producer organizations, regulators & supervisors in a wide variety of areas including financial inclusion, regulation and supervision, risk management, conflicts of interest, governance, internal controls, audits and inspections, core banking systems/ERPs, MIS and Big Data, Blockchains, FINTECH, RegTech, machine/deep learning, forensic audit, poverty alleviation, sustainable development goals, urban development including urban infrastructure, livelihoods, private sector and MSME development and micro, MSME, agricultural, post-harvest, value chain, digital and other forms of finance.

2) Godfrey Lord Kwesi Crentsii is a Microfinance expert with over 15 years’ experience in microfinance development and supervision. Trained and practiced in most African and European countries as well as the MENA region.

TRAINING VENUES

Training activities will take place in a top-notch hotel in the heart of Nairobi. Participants will be accommodated in the same hotel.

LANGUAGE

The language of instruction will be English. No translation will be provided.
APPLICATION

The application deadline for the course is May 4th, 2020. Please note that we do select applications on a first-come, first-served basis. Nevertheless, we will try to form a group of participants with complementary experiences and backgrounds. The number of participants is limited to 30.

REGISTRATION

Please fill the attached registration form and send to info@financialinclusionadvocacy.org

DEADLINE

All registration forms should be submitted by the 4th of May, 2020, late applications will be considered subject to availability.

CANCELLATION POLICY

You may make a substitution, without charge, at any me before the start of the course but all cancellations must be confirmed in writing. Cancellations received more than four weeks prior to the start of the course are not subject to any penalty. Cancellation received after that me incurs the following penalties: two to four weeks 50% of the course fee; less than two weeks 100% of the course fee. If written notification is not received and you do not a end, the full course fee will be retained as a cancellation charge.
### REGISTRATION FORM

**Utilizing Agricultural Value Chain Development to Accelerate Financial Inclusion & Women Empowerment in Rural Africa**

Nairobi, Kenya. 11th -15th May, 2020

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**PAYMENT MUST BE MADE BY BANK TRANSFERS. BANK DETAILS ARE PROVIDED AFTER SUCCESSFUL REGISTRATION AND INVOICE ISSUED**