CAPEC Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation THE ADVISORY GROUP ON APEC FINANCIAL SYSTEM CAPACITY-BUILDING A Public-Private Sector Initiative

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Meeting Paper 4-C

Proposed Joint Conference: Financial Inclusion Conference: Trends, Challenges and Policies for Rebalancing Growth

Asian Development Bank Institute







Financial Inclusion Conference: Trends, Challenges and Policies for Rebalancing Growth

Tentative Conference Program

20 October 2010		
9:00 – 9:30	Registration	
9:30 – 10:00	Opening Remarks	
Session I: Financial Inclusion Through Microfinance to Support Rebalancing Growth		
In the wake of the global financial crisis, developing Asian economies now need to adapt their development strategies and take up the challenge of 'rebalancing growth' away from exports to US and EU markets towards greater reliance on domestic and regional demand. Has the financial crisis adversely affected financial inclusion? How could microfinance facilitate the necessary rebalancing of growth?		
10:00 – 10:30	Presentation	
10:30 – 11:00	Presentation	
11:00 – 11:15	Coffee Break	
11:15 – 11:45	Two country presentations	
11:45 – 13:00	Open Discussion	
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch and Photo Session	
Session II: Financial Inclusion in PR China		

As PR China takes its place among those leading the world economy out of global recession, its development strategy has become a success story. The development of PR China's SMEs and manufacturing sector highlight the key role of innovative financial inclusion strategies in unlocking the vast potential of entrepreneurship and human capital. This session aims to showcase PR China's innovative financial inclusion strategies, best practices, and next steps forward.

14:30 – 15:00	Presentation	
15:00 – 15:15	Presentation	
15:15 – 15:30	Presentation	
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee Break	
16:15 – 17:30	Open Discussion	
18:30 – 20:30	Cocktail Dinner	

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Session III: Green Microfinance

Adaptation to climate change is an important issue that can be addressed through initiatives such as developing disaster and insurance plans and "climate-proofing" microfinance schemes. In some countries, microfinance institutions have begun providing financing for projects that focus on water supply, and those that introduce and expand renewable energy and sustainable business practices in areas like agriculture and forestry. In this case, how can national governments partner with microfinance institutions in pursuing these targets? For countries wherein governments provide subsidy to farmers to encourage them to use renewable energy and to improve the condition of water supply, what policy measures could optimize microfinance and other innovative financial inclusion strategies?

9:30 – 10:00	Presentation	
10:00 – 10:30	Presentation	
10:30 – 11:00	Presentation	
11:00 – 11:15	Coffee Break	
11:15 – 11:45	Two Country Presentations	
11:45 – 13:00	Open Discussion	
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch	

Session IV: Mitigating Risks Through Microfinance

Microfinance provides services that help mitigate risks and protect clients from shocks such the most recent economic crisis. While credit/loans help finance enterprises, savings and insurance services help protect profit. In Asia, some MFIs have already begun offering savings and insurance services. What are the prospects for this area of activity? What are the regulatory challenges?

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Session V: Promoting SMME Finance: The Role of Information Sharing Systems and Legal Frameworks for Secured Lending

Small, micro and medium enterprises (SMMEs) form a key component of any effort to promote inclusive growth. Lack of access to finance is a major obstacle to the growth of SMMEs, and the lack of effective information sharing systems and the absence of information on collateral and security rights in movable property are key hurdles to lending in many economies. What path to the development of a regulatory framework works best for differing types of economies? Which avenues to establishing a financial identity are most effective for a given reporting system? How and when should non-financial data be engaged in the early development of credit reporting regimes? What approaches are needed to address key issues related to the legal infrastructure for secured lending?

9:30 – 10:00	Presentation	
10:00 – 10:15	Presentation	
10:15 – 11:15	Open Discussion	
11:15 – 11:30	Coffee Break	
Session VI: Concluding Session		
11:30 – 12:00	What are the main lessons learnt on financial inclusion regarding trends, challenges and policies for rebalancing growth? Which way forward?	
12:00 – 12:30	Concluding Remarks	
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch	
13:30 ~	Field Trip to the Shanghai Expo	