

News

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MICROFINANCE CENTRE TO DELIVER MOODY'S ANALYTICS SOCIAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS

New York, September 9, 2013 -- Moody's Analytics and the Microfinance Centre (MFC) have launched a new strategic partnership in Europe and Central Asia to deliver the Moody's Analytics Social Performance Assessment (SPA) of microfinance institutions and operations.

This new partnership is part of Moody's commitment to provide globally comparable assessments with local market expertise for microfinance programs. It also builds on the MFC's vision for a sustainable and mission-focused industry. Moody's Social Performance Group and the MFC are aligned in their commitment to ensure microfinance institutions assist the poor and underserved.

"Moody's brings over 100 years experience in ratings and assessments while the Microfinance Centre was the first global player to work on social performance issues," said Jody Rasch, Senior Vice President, Social Performance Group at Moody's Analytics. "The Microfinance Centre brings a local practitioner's perspective to the table and we are very excited to work with an organization with such a great track-record."

"The Microfinance Centre continues to advance responsible finance and in particular social performance throughout Europe and Central Asia," said Katarzyna Pawlak, Deputy Director of MFC. "Moody's Analytics Social Performance Assessments will help those organizations track and compare performance, which will help bring needed attention of social investors to this sector."

The SPA is based on a global methodology developed by Moody's Analytics through extensive market research and participation from over 100 microfinance institutions, investors, and service providers including the Social Performance Task Force, the MIX, the SMART Campaign and others. The SPA uses a scale ranging from SP1, the highest grade, to SP5, the lowest.

About the Microfinance Centre

MFC is a regional microfinance resource center and network which brings together 103 organizations (including 78 MFIs) in 27 countries of Europe and Asia, who aid over 800,000 low-income clients. Its mission is to contribute to poverty reduction and the development of human potential by promoting a socially-oriented and sustainable microfinance sector that provides adequate financial and non-financial services to a large numbers of low income families and micro-entrepreneurs.

About Moody Analytics' Social Performance Assessments

Moody Analytics' SPA is an independent analysis of the operations of a microfinance institution that helps stakeholders better understand how effective it is at translating its social mission into practice.

Moody's Analytics SPA has been recognized by the Clinton Global Initiative for contributing to the development of the microfinance industry through the creation of a comprehensive, global standard to measure social performance. Further information is available at www.moodyanalytics.com/microfinance

About MFC's Responsible Finance work

Since 1999, MFC has worked with practitioners and support organizations on impact assessments, social performance management, client protection, and social responsibility towards clients, shareholders, community and environment. Over 100 MFIs have benefited from MFC's trainings, workshops, guidelines, advice and institutional assessments, and significantly more from awareness raising events. Learn more here: www.mfc.org.pl/en/content/social-performance-management

About Moody's Analytics

Moody's Analytics helps capital markets and credit risk management professionals worldwide respond to an evolving marketplace with confidence. The company offers unique tools and best practices for measuring and managing risk through expertise and experience in credit analysis, economic research and financial risk management. By providing leading-edge software, advisory services, and research, including the proprietary analysis of Moody's Investors Service, Moody's Analytics integrates and customizes its offerings to address specific business challenges.

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