

MICROFINANCE A TOOL for EMPOWERING PEOPLE

Rome - 19th October 2016, h 11.00

Ministry for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

Conferenze Internazionali, Conference room - Piazzale della Farnesina 1

The new 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development calls on countries to renovate efforts to address sustainability issues at all levels of society.

By promoting new paths of empowerment, access to credit may be a powerful tool for mobilizing resources and developing human capabilities. Recently initiatives and schemes supporting Microfinance have successfully been undertaken at international level. Thus, social banking and ethical finance may positively affect also Sub-Saharan Africa countries in addressing social and environmental challenges. The event "Microfinance: a tool for empowering people" is designed to provide attendees with best practices and case studies for a better understanding of how ethical finance can serve human development and empowerment.

For **registration** to the conference, please click **here** until **7th October 2016**. We strongly recommend that you bring a valid passport or national ID card.

11.00 REGISTRATION AND ACCREDITATION

11.15 OPENING AND WELCOME SPEECH

Ugo Biggeri - President of Banca Popolare Etica

11.20-12.50 FIRST SESSION

DEBATE ABOUT THE ROLE OF MICROFINANCE AND ACCESS TO CREDIT AS TOOLS OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Ambassador Pietro Sebastiani - Director DGCS

Laura Frigenti - Director AICS

Bernardo Bini Smaghi - Director of Cassa Depositi e Prestiti

Roberto Ridolfi - Director-General EC DEVCO - C. "Sustainable Growth and Development"

Ugo Biggeri - President of Banca Popolare Etica

Jean Louis Bancel - President of Credit Coopertif

Don Dante Carraro - Director Cuamm Medici con L'Africa

Arthur Muliro - Deputy Managing Director and Head of Rome Office, SID

Q&A

Moderator: **Paolo Beccegato** - Deputy Director, Caritas Italiana

12.50-14.30 SECOND SESSION BEST PRACTICES EXCHANGE AND INITIATIVES SUPPORTING MICROFINANCE AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

Randa Abed Rabbo - Director of UCASC

Bruno Dunkel - Director of COOPMED

Dominique Lesaffre - Director of SIDI

Edvardas Bumsteinas - Head of Microfinance Unit, European Investment Bank

Amber O'Connell - Capacity Building Manager, Oikocredit International

Q&A

Moderator: **Gabriele Giuglietti** - Institutional and Foreign Affairs, Banca Popolare Etica From Jerusalem, **Marco Azzalini**, Head of Economic Development Unit at Italian Agency for International cooperation

14.30 BUFFET SNACK LUNCH