

## EMN Exchange Visit

# EMN Exchange Visit on European Code of Good Conduct for Microcredit Provision and EaSI funding

- Date: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2014
- Time: 10 AM – 5PM
- 2 Venues:
  - 10 AM - Workshop : European Commission - Charlemagne Building, Rue de la Loi 170, B-1000 Brussels
  - 2:30 PM - Field Visit: microStart, Place Bethléem 9, B-1060 Brussels
- Organizers: European Commission - European Investment Bank – European Microfinance Network

### Course of Action

This year's EMN Exchange Visit is organized around two main chapters and happening at two different locations in Brussels. The morning session is organized by the European Commission and the European Investment Bank. After a networking lunch at the Charlemagne Building (EC), the EMN will organize transportation to bring registered participants to the field visit to the headquarters of microStart (Belgian MFI) for the afternoon session.

### Context and Content

The European Commission is pleased to invite you to an EaSI technical assistance workshop which will focus on the European Code of Good Conduct for Microcredit Provision.

The purpose of this **workshop** is to address the practical implementation of the European Code of Good Conduct for Microcredit Provision (the Code) in relation to:

- i. the EaSI technical assistance for microcredit providers that that will be made available under the new period 2014-2020; and
- ii. the adherence to the Code by public and private bodies willing to benefit from funding opportunities in the framework of the EU Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI), the successor programme of Progress Microfinance.

The **field visit to microStart** will inscribe itself in a continuation of the morning session, by giving it a more practical orientation. microStart's business model is unique in the European microfinance landscape as it succeeded in incorporating the European Investment Fund (EIF) into its board of directors. microStart also has been a beneficiary of EU Funds under the former European PROGRESS Microfinance Facility and therefore gained valuable experience that it will share with the audience, whilst we also look into its experience with EU Code of Good Conduct and Social Reporting towards the European Institutions.

## Practical Information

The workshop on the practical implementation of the European Code of Good Conduct for Microcredit Provision (the Code) will take place in the Charlemagne Building of the European Commission in Brussels, and will start at 10:00 am with the registration. The workshop officially starts at 10:30. The language of the workshop will be English. Simultaneous translation in other EU languages (English, French and German) will be made available at the event.

The workshop will end around 1:00 pm and will be followed by a networking lunch at the European Commission.

After lunch, the EMN will organize transportation to bring the registered participants (up to 20 persons) to the field visit at microStart.

## Registration

Registration is free of charge, but mandatory! If you want to participate in both sessions (workshop and field visit), you need to register twice, as explained below:

The workshop in the morning is organized by the European Commission and the European Investment Bank. We would like to ask you to register for the workshop by sending the [registration form](#) and [visitor template](#) (requested information for EC security services) to [Senait Zere](#) and to [Chiara Continenza](#) no later than **19<sup>th</sup> November 2014**.

The field visit in the afternoon is organized by the EMN. Due to logistical reasons, the field visit is limited to 20 persons. **Registration to the field visit is already closed due to limited space.**

We trust that this EMN Exchange Visit will be a great opportunity to receive first-hand information from Commission officials and to learn from each other, in order to contribute to the growth of microfinance in Europe.

## Programme

TIME	ACTIVITY	ORGANIZATION	PLACE
10:00 – 10:30	Registration	European Commission & European Investment Bank	Charlemagne Building
10:30 – 13:00	Workshop on the European Code of Good Conduct for Microcredit Provision	European Commission & European Investment Bank	Charlemagne Building
13:00 – 14:00	Networking Lunch	European Commission & European Investment Bank	Charlemagne Building
14:00 – 14:30	Transport to microStart Brussels Agency	European Microfinance Network (EMN)	Charlemagne Building
14:30 – 16:30	Field Visit to microStart	European Microfinance Network (EMN)	microStart (Place Bethléem, Bruxelles)
16:30 – 17:00	Networking Cocktail	European Microfinance Network (EMN)	microStart (Place Bethléem, Bruxelles)

For further information, please contact [emn@european-microfinance.org](mailto:emn@european-microfinance.org)