



UNIONE  
EUROPEA



MINISTERO  
DELL'INTERNO



micro  
finanza  
.it



## Best practice exchange on microfinance for migrants in the EU

### Brief decription

The project is developed by Associazione Microfinanza e Sviluppo in partnership with RITMI (Italian Microfinance Network), EMN (European Microfinance Network) and Nantik Lum Foundation and it is promoted and co-financed by the European Fund for the Integration of Third-country Nationals and the Italian Ministry of the Interior.

The aim of the program is to identify the supply of microfinance services for migrants in the EU focusing on the existing best practices for financial inclusion of migrants and their exchange.

## Objectives of the project

### 1) Analysis of supply and demand of microfinance services for migrants in EU

Successful experiences and actual challenges faced by the microfinance sector.

### 2) Identification of good practices in the microfinance sector by using key indicators

The indicators are constructed by taking into consideration the needs and the demands of migrants as they apply for a loan or other similar services; the indicators can be useful for future microfinance programmes and are free for anyone to use.

### 3) Development of an exchange system of good practices

The construction of a communication system aims to facilitate the financial inclusion of the migrant population in Europe by spreading knowledge of good practices and by allowing operators-operators and operators-migrants communication.

## Intervention strategy

### Partners

The objectives of the project will be achieved through the direct involvement of key actors of the microfinance sector at a European and national level: the **European Microfinance Network (EMN)** which comprises the major European microfinance operators, the **Italian Network of Microfinance (RITMI)** - the Italian national association of microfinance institutions and the **Nantik Lum Foundation**, based in Madrid, which brings its operational experience in the microfinance field.

### Data collection

The data required in order to reach the Objective 1 and 2 will be collected using direct contacts and sources made available by our partners. On the basis of our experience, we will involve also **strategic players** out of the EMN network. Our work will focus especially on the EU countries with the **stronger incidence of migrants from extra-EU countries**.

### The tool: the questionnaire

In order to achieve the Objective 2 it will be crucial to ensure **an active and dynamic participation of microfinance operators and of other actors** that share the target of reaching financially-excluded people. **The questionnaire** is the key tool to get relevant data for the evaluation of the good practices.

We will not take into consideration only practices that identify migrants as direct target, but we will analyse also practices in which migrants result as indirect beneficiaries.

The questionnaire is supposed to be an effective tool in order to understand:

- when MFIs and others microfinance operators follow the right direction in helping migrants to reach their objectives
- how these actors can improve in doing so.

**Associazione Microfinanza e Sviluppo**

**Via Castel dei Merli 49. 38121 Trento. Italy. Tel: +39-335-1284571. E-mail: [associazione@microfinanza.it](mailto:associazione@microfinanza.it)  
[www.microfinanza.it](http://www.microfinanza.it)**

## Final recipients and the web site

In reaching Objective 3, the web platform/site will be useful for:

- 1) **Microfinance operators and other actors that serve migrants:**
  - learn from each other through best practices;
  - participate the platform by exchanging information and experiences;
  - use indicators in order to evaluate their own products/services for migrants;
  - have a positive and effective visibility in the European context;
- 2) **Migrants:**
  - understand what are the opportunities in terms of access to financial markets;
  - know the existing and active organizations, programs, financial institutions and banks which fit better with their needs.

**Once the best practices have been identified**, microfinances actors and the other operators in EU scenario can gain a positive visibility. **Only positive results in terms of good practices will be highlighted in the web site.** The positive results will be showed and can be taken as models by those who are interested. All good practices will be also divided into different areas of intervention.

## Workshops

The exchange activity will be further developed through the organization of **4 events at the European level** sponsored by EMN. During the workshops in Milan and in Madrid, the participants will have the opportunity to bring their expertise in the field of inclusive finance for migrants and to discuss the results of the research developed in the project. The discussion will focus especially on the effectiveness of indicators (Objective 1 and 2).

At the end of the program the results of the project will be reported and the participants, as representatives of different countries, will be able to elaborate and to approve a memorandum concerning the challenges that the industry faces in the development of services to migrants.