MP3 + PLUS

Microfinance programmes in India are making rapid strides with two distinct intervention models / approaches - the enabling model of SHG bank linkage programme and the delivery model through microfinance institutions. The SHG Bank linkage programme is, by far, the largest Microfinance programme in the country and after more than a decade of implementation, SHG movement has gathered brisk momentum across the country in terms of out reach and depth of financial services with diversity of products. The pivotal role played by the NGOs in promoting and building the SHG client system paved the way for mainstream financial institutions, Government to advance and deepen the programme. The MFIs are now emerging as a complement to the banking system to provide largely micro credit services. The SHGs are increasingly getting networked as federation and apex cooperatives etc., and the microfinance movement is on the high growth trajectory.

The robust growth of the microfinance programmes have brought greater challenges basically impacting on the capacity and also the human resources available for managing the growth. In fact, the capacity constraint has been the dampening factor for managing the growth of this order. The growth process also brought to fore the inadequacies in the capacity of the NGOs / MFIs engaged in Microfinance programmes. The federated model of SHGs also brought out new dimensions and issues in the capacity building of NGOs and MFIs relating to governance, processes, systems, financial management etc. There is a greater need now to invest in the building the capacity and capabilities of NGOs and MFIs in terms of knowledge and skill required to manage the growth.

As part of the mandate for the capacity building and Keeping the above concerns in view, INAFI INDIA a network of development NGOs in India with large microfinance programmes has been engaged in building the capacity of small and upcoming NGOs in terms of perspective building, knowledge building, clarity etc. A primer programme namely MP3 in microfinance has been launched to expose the NGOs to the principles, practices and build their perspectives. Essentially this primer is aimed at small NGOs who have just initiated their microfinance programme and typically promoted 50-100 Self Help Groups. The primer MP 3 programme was launched during 2002 and INAFI INDIA has organised many such programmes across the country benefiting more than 300 small NGOs.

The response and the feedback from the participant NGOs are quite positive and encouraging leading to demand for advanced programme in microfinance for

managing the higher order of growth. Further the exponential growth of microfinance programmes and the sector clearly call for an advanced version of MP3 programme in Microfinance for the upcoming NGOs for the expanding their microfinance operations and managing the growth with order and quality.

Keeping the above need and demand in view, INAFI INDIA is launching now its advanced version of the MP3 programme titled "MP3 + Plus". This advanced version of MP3 will focus on Development, Financial and Institutional perspectives of the growing Microfinance sector. Apart from focusing on SHGs & cooperatives, this course will also deal with the potential of SHG/Cooperative federations for broadening and deepening Microfinance services to the poor. The power of scale for broadening & deepening Microfinance services including micro insurance through SHG/Cooperative on Federations is recognised by all the stakeholders of the sector and this course would enrich and enhance the practice and knowledge of the participants in Microfinance.

The MP3 + Plus programme is designed for Chief Executives/ Senior Executives of Small and upcoming NGOs who have initiated microfinance programme with small outreach and are in the growth phase. It is hoped that this would be a useful contribution from the INAFI INDIA Network to the microfinance sector in terms of capacity building to handle growth of Microfinance programmes in the country.

Programme Focus

The Advanced programme MP3 + Plus has been designed with focus on the following aspects.

- Need for networking of SHGs
- Institution Building
- Governance & Management
- Structures & Systems
- Microinsurance services
- Federation and business promotion
- Sustainability

Pedagogy

This is a three-day residential programme. Two day in house training and one-day field visit with following methodologies.

- Reflection on experiences, presentations
- Resource lectures and discussions

- Experiential learning
- Case analysis and discussions
- Group Discussion & Group Exercises

Resource Persons

Experienced practitioners of Microfinance and SHG Federations in particular would be the resource persons, who are drawn from organizations, which have proven their excellence in running microfinance programmes.

Cost Sharing

The participants will pay a nominal fee Rs.500, which will cover Food & Accommodation expenses, training kit with materials and local conveyance. However, the entire travel expenditure will be borne by the participants.



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Mp3 + PLUS in Microfinance

Microfinance

An INAFI INDIA Initiative