Unitar Online Catalogue

# eWorkshop on Financial Inclusion and Sustainable Development (AGFUND Event)

Prosperity

Deadline: 5 Nov 2020

| | |
|---|---|
| Type: | Workshop |
| Location: | Web-based |
| Date: | 11 Nov 2020 to 9 Dec 2020 |
| Duration: | 4 Weeks |
| Thematic Area: | Public Finance and Trade |
| Website: | https://www.un-finance-learn.org/ |
| Price: | $0.00 |
| Event Focal Point Email: | pft-elearning@unitar.org |
| Partnership: | Arab Gulf Development Programme (AGFUND) |

## BACKGROUND

*This eWorkshop is funded by the Arab Gulf Programme for Development (AGFUND), a regional organization based in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. AGFUND was established in 1980 upon the initiative of His Royal Highness, Prince Talal Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud with the support of leaders of the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries: United Arab Emirates, Kingdom of Bahrain, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia,*

*State of Qatar, Sultanate of Oman and the State of Kuwait. AGFUND works mainly in the field of development and growth at the international level through an effective partnership with the United Nations Organization, with regional and national development organizations, with public institutions, with the private sector, as well as with organizations of the civil society. | http://agfund.org*

Recently, inclusive economic growth and sustainable development have gained traction as a development policy paradigm in the developing countries. In parallel to this development has been the wider and growing recognition of the key role of inclusive finance in the development process and the need to address the strong existence of financial exclusion in the developing countries to bind the potential of finance for achieving sustainable development. In December 2015, the UN General Assembly reinforced the critical role of financial inclusion for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). There is a general consensus among different stakeholders that financial inclusion is a pre-requisite and key enabler for attaining most of the SDGs. Therefore, financial inclusion is referenced in seven of the 17 SDGs.

What is remarkable of the sustainable development in the field of finance is that financial inclusion is topping the agenda of most national-level policymakers including financial sector regulatory bodies, despite the fact that financial inclusion has historically not been within their core work. The developing countries especially the Arab world has witnessed an increased momentum in policy dialogue and national initiatives to address financial inclusion.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of the e-workshop, participants will be expected to:

- Develop a critical appreciation of the interactions between various microfinance and financial inclusion areas functions (rural development, technology and economic growth).
- Develop a critical understanding of why financial inclusion is imperative to economic growth and sustainable development.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of the elements required to build long-term success in financial inclusion, and how participants can contribute

to the fostering of long-term value creation.
- Develop knowledge and critical understanding of the theories, concepts and models of different financial inclusion areas.

## CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

The eWorkshop will cover the following topis:

- Financial Inclusion and Economic Growth in the COVID-19 Crisis

  *Select and critically analyze the accumulating body of evidence which supports policy makers' assessments that developing inclusive financial systems is a key component for achieving socio-economic development.*
- Financial Inclusion and Rural Development: the impact of COVID-19

  *Investigate and analyze how rural development can be linked to inclusive growth and the roles that rural finance can play in linking to rural growth with an inclusive growth in the time of crisis.*
- Post COVID-19 Transition to a Digital Economy

  *In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, examine how digital finance spurs inclusive growth by leading to greater efficiency and new business models.*

This eWorkshop will also include individual and group research and practical activities. Please apply only if you can commit minimum of 6 hours learning time per week.

## METHODOLOGY

The eWorkshop will be delivered over a 4-week period with blended self-learning and self-led assignment, group-work, and weekly 2-hour webinar (every Friday). The fourth week will be dedicated primarily for peer review, group presentation, and evaluation. The eWorkshop will be highly interactive and facilitated by an Expert using Zoom platform. Participants successfully completing the eWorkshop assessment will be awarded a Certificate of Completion.

## TARGETED AUDIENCE

This eWorkshop is intended primarily for staff of AGFUND Microfinance Institutions in the Middle East and Africa. Officials from other Micro Finance Institutions in the region may be considered depending on the available slots. Limited slots are available to ensure more focused mentoring, greater interaction and deeper knowledge sharing.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Participants are expected to have a reliable internet connection, webcam, microphone and speaker throughout the duration of the eWorkshop. The eWorkshop schedule is subject to change.