

# **Research Meets Africa**

## Research solutions for MSMEs growth in Africa

### Monday, October 9th 2017

#### Time Program

- 8:30 9:00 Welcome and Check-in
- 9:00 9:15 **Opening plenary** *Laura Foschi*, Deputy Director, ADA Luxembourg *Rebecca Rouse,* Financial Inclusion Program Director, Innovations Poverty Action (IPA)
- 9:15 9:45 **Presentation qualitative study: Small and Growing Businesses in Ethiopia** *First Consult PLC and ADA Luxembourg*
- 9:45 11:00 Plenary 1: Access to finance for MSMEs
  - Dr Ephrem NIYONGABO, Expert advisor in monetary policy and financial market and Dr Alphonse NYOBEWUMUNSI, Chief of the microfinance department, Central Bank of Burundi

*How to improve the role of microfinance in the financing of MSMEs in Burundi? (FR)* 

• Cécile GODFROID, PhD student, CERMi-UMONS, Belgium Relationship Lending in Microfinance: How does it Impact Client Dropouts? (EN)

**Moderator:** Kaspar Wansleben, Executive Director of LMDF – Luxembourg Microfinance and Development Fund, Luxembourg

#### Panelists:

- Suleiman Asman, Country-Director Kenya, Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA)
- Syed Suhail Perveez, General Manager, TEBITA Ambulance, Ethiopia
- Eléonore Marie Céline Compaore Gyebre, Director, GRAINE Burkina Faso
- Zerihun Ayalew, Director, Rorank, Ethiopia

11:00 - 11:15 Coffee Break



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#### 11:15 - 12:30 Plenary 2: Regulation and Governance

- Terfa W. ABRAHAM, Ph.D, National Institute for Legislative Studies (NILS), Abuja, Nigeria Microfinance Regulation in West Africa: Effect on Small Businesses and the Debates around a Consolidated Legislation (EN)
- Muluneh Hideto DATO, Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), SBS-EM, CEB, and CERMI, Belgium; Universitetet i Agder (UiA), KSBL, Kristiansand, Norway Association between Microfinance Social Rating Scores and Governance Structure: a global survey (EN)

**Moderator:** Frédéric KALALA, Chair in microfinance at CCAM/UPC, Protestant University of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo

#### Panelists:

- Lucia Spaggiari, Business Development Director, Microfinanza Rating
- Sharada Ramanathan, Progress out of Poverty Index (PPI)
- Luc Vandeweerd, Executive Advisor, ADA Luxembourg
- 12:30 14:00 Lunch Break
- 14:00 14:30 How do we know what works? Using Randomized Evaluations to Discover Effective Ways to Promote SME Growth Rebecca Rouse, Financial Inclusion Program Director, Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA)

#### 14:30 - 15:45 **Plenary 3: Digital Era**

- Dr. Manuel Roland TCHEUMALIEU FANSI, Docteur en droit des affaires de l'Université de Strasbourg et de Yaoundé II The emergence of financial digitalization on inclusive finance and legal aspects (FR)
- Alexis Beggs OLSEN, Consultant & CFI Fellow, USA Effective Human Touch in a Digital Age: Implications for MSMEs (EN)



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#### Panelists:

- Lonneke Noteboom, Fintech Analyst at FMO Dutch Development Bank, Netherlands
- Niladri Roy, Craft Solutions, Vice-President Global Business Development, Kenya
- Ed Higenbottam, Managing Director, Verdant Capital

#### Time Program

15:45 – 16h00 Coffee Break

#### 16:00 – 17h15 Plenary 4: Women and Entrepreneurship

- Samuel SALIA, PhD., Lecturer in International Finance, University of Wolverhampton, UK Is women empowerment a zero sum game? Unintended consequences of microfinance for women's empowerment in Ghana (EN)
- BAUWIN Mathilde, PhD at Paris Dauphine University and the French National Institute of Demographic Studies, France Loyalty, Trust and Glass Ceiling: the Gender Effect on Microcredit renewal (EN)

**Moderator:** Laura Viganò, Professor and coordinator of FINDEV research group, University of Bergamo, Italy

#### Panelists:

- Eléonore Marie Céline Compaore Gyebre, Director, GRAINE, Burkina Faso
- Nathalie IRAGI, Operations Director, Hekima, DRC
- Teshome Yiheyis, Managing Director, Meklit Microfinance Institution, Ethiopia

#### $17{:}15-17{:}30 \quad \text{Closing remarks and presentation of the award} \\$

Linda Szelest, R&D Senior Project officer, ADA, Luxembourg Rebecca Rouse, Director, Financial Inclusion Program Director, Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA)