

MFIN to Host South Asian Regional Conclave on Microfinance

- *Conclave 2016 titled 'Financial Inclusion to Sustainable Development The Road Travelled' is being held in India for the first time*
- *Focus is to facilitate regional dialogue and cross learning among Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka*

New Delhi, 2nd March, 2016: Microfinance Institutions Network (MFIN) and South Asia Micro-Entrepreneurs Network (SAMN) have joined hands to organize South Asia focused regional conference on microfinance and financial inclusion. Honorable Finance Minister of India Mr. **Arun Jaitley** will be addressing the inaugural session. The conclave in its second edition will be held on March 8th – 9th, 2016 in Hotel Taj Palace, Delhi and would see representation from six countries including India – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The theme this year is 'Conclave 2016: Financial Inclusion to Sustainable Development the Road Travelled'.

Two-day long South Asian regional conclave has impressive line of confirmed speakers which includes names such as – **Ms. Ratna Sahay**-Deputy Director, International Monetary Fund, **Mr. Baijayant Panda**-Honorable, Member of Parliament, **Mr. U.S Paliwal**-Executive Director, Reserve Bank of India, **Mr. Kiran Karnik**- Chairman, Oxfam India, **Dr. Kumudhini Saravanamuttu**-Director, Policy Review, Central Bank of Sri Lanka, **Mr. Chandra Shekhar Ghosh** – Founder & Managing Director, Bandhan Bank, **Mr. Syed Nadeem Hussain**-President & CEO, Tameer Microfinance Bank Ltd. Pakistan, **Mr. Royston Braganza**-CEO-Grameen Capital, and **Mr. Najibullah Samim**- Executive Director, Afghanistan Microfinance Association among others.

Over 300 participants across South Asia are expected to attend the conference which will include representatives from regional development banks, policy makers, microfinance companies, researchers, investors, banks, telecom companies and technology providers among others. The conference will highlight and address the challenges, innovations and opportunities that have been seen in South Asia's financial inclusion space especially for the low income segment.

The aim of the conclave is to facilitate regional dialogue and increase investment inflows into the region. The regional conference will also explore the role improved access to finance can play in unlocking the economic potential of the region by contributing to job creation, especially by promoting entrepreneurship among youth and women. It will provide a platform to the thought leaders from South Asia to interact and assess opportunities for regional integration and cross-learning within the financial inclusion space.

For registration and further information please visit – ['Conclave 2016: Financial Inclusion to Sustainable Development The Road Travelled'](#)

About Microfinance Institutions Network

Microfinance Institutions Network (MFIN) is the premier industry association and Self-Regulatory Organisation (SRO) for the microfinance industry in India and its current membership consists of 47 leading NBFC (Non-banking Financial Company) Microfinance Institutions (MFIs) in the country. The aggregate business of MFIN members constitutes over 85 per cent of the Indian microfinance industry (excluding SHGs). MFIN seeks to work closely with regulators and other key stakeholders to achieve larger financial inclusions goals through microfinance.

About South Asia Micro-Entrepreneurs Network

The South Asia Micro-Entrepreneurs Network (SAMN) is a regional network aiming at enhancing capacity, financing and regional dialogue in the microfinance sector of South Asia. SAMN governance is composed of leading national microfinance apex institutions across six countries of the region who along with the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED) lead, manage and govern SAMN activities.

For further information please contact:

Perfect Relations

Rakesh Kumar Jha – 9873904595 | riha@perfectrelations.com



Pooja Chauhan – 9971627588 | pchauhan@perfectrelations.com