

April 2008



Monthly bulletin

ATTENTION! We Have Moved into Another Office and our Contact Data Has Changed

Our new address is: 107031, Moscow, Petrovka str., 15/13, building 5, office 500.

Our phone numbers: +7 (495) 258-87-05; 258-68-31, fax: +7 (495) 258-87-09 and our e-mails have not changed.

The Regulations of the Government Commission on SME Development Were Approved

The Russian Federation Government has approved the Regulations of the Government Commission on SME development. Microfinance was included in the priorities of the Commission's performance. In 2008 the Commission is going to contemplate the draft laws «Of credit cooperation» and «Of microfinance organizations».

From the materials of the Russian Federation Government Internet-portal:

<http://www.government.ru/government/governmentactivity/rfgovernmentdecisions/archive/2008/04/04/643580.htm>

The Tendencies of the Microfinance Services Market Development in Russia (2003-2006)

We offer your attention the main results of the fourth round of the microfinance market monitoring "The Tendencies of the Microfinance Services Market Development in Russia (2003-2006)" prepared by the Russian Microfinance Center in cooperation with the Russian SME Resource Center.

This research is a result of the fourth annual round of monitoring, summing up the tendencies of the microfinance sector development and containing the data which provides characteristics of the institutional state and the parameters of the microfinance market in Russia. The succession of the investigation toolkit and the enquiry of one and the same group of organizations let the authors receive not only current data about the market state, but also trace its dynamics, and evaluate structure shifts. The first investigation using unified toolkit was delivered in 2004. The offered material sums up the information on the results of the main types of microfinance organizations' (MFI) performance in 2006 and includes data on dynamics for the period 2003-2006.

To download the research resume, please follow this link to the RMC website:

<http://www.rmcenter.ru/publications/library>.

Professor Muhammad Yunus Awarded "Nobel Peace Prize 2006" in 2006 for the Microfinance Development Visited Moscow



On 1-7 April 2008 Professor Muhammad Yunus awarded "Nobel Peace Prize 2006" in 2006 invited by the Moscow Government visited Russia. The visit was organized by the Moscow Government and the National Partnership of Microfinance Market Stakeholders (NAMMS).

During his visit to Russia professor Yunus delivered workshops with the Deputy Chairman of the Government of the Russian Federation Aleksander Zhukov, the Moscow Mayor Yuriy Luzhkov, the Deputy Chairman of the Council of Federation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation Mikhail Nikolayev. Besides, professor Yunus met leaders of banking and microfinance community and read several public lectures at the Moscow State University, the Higher School of Economics, and the Moscow State University of Management of the Moscow Government. Within the framework of the visit, on 3 April a round table «A way to the middle class: how microfinance can support starting business?» was delivered organized by the National Partnership of Microfinance Market Stakeholders (NAMMS), Small Enterprise Support and Development Department of the Moscow Government and Association of Russian Banks with the Russian Microfinance Center's support.

Within the framework of the round table Dr. Yunus shared his thoughts about possible ways of microfinance development as an efficient instrument of struggle with poverty and private enterprise development in Russia and round the world. After the professor's speech the round table facilitator - NAMMS President Mikhail Mamuta opened the discussion with the representatives of the RF Ministry of Finance, the RF Ministry of Economic Development, the Central Bank of the Russian Federation, leading banks, microfinance institutions, and credit cooperatives participating. The issues which organization of the microcredit system in Russia can face were discussed.

One of the important results of the meeting has been signing a strategic Partnership Agreement between NAMMS and Grameen Bank, within the framework of which a joint project of introducing the Grameen Bank's methodology in Russia is planned to be implemented. NAMMS has also taken upon itself a mission to translate into Russian two of the most topical books by Professor Yunus: «Banker to the Poor» and «Creating a World Without Poverty», which will be published in this year in cooperation with the Moscow Government.

During this year a training on probation for the interested bankers, microfinance institutions' representatives, and government authorities in the Grameen Bank will be organized.

Photo: Nasir Ali Mamun

More information about microfinance can be found on the Russian Microfinance Center's web-site:

<http://www.rmcenter.ru>.

Petrovka str., 15/13, bld.5, office 500
Moscow, Russia, 107031

Тел.: +7 (495) 258-8705, 258-6831
Факс: +7 (495) 258-8709

www.rmcenter.ru
info@rmcenter.ru