



The Internet-Television Project «Microfinance + » is Announced

The TV channel «Microfinance + » represents the topical issues of the microfinance market and small business crediting news. It was created by the ARB-TV in cooperation with the Russian Microfinance Center. It is planned to be developed as a self-sustained television portal within the framework of the teleportal «Koshelek», involving in its orbit small and medium business, banks, and microfinance institutes.

TV channel of useful advice «Koshelek» is television pieces of advice to the audience on the most broad set of questions, in the first place, on business and finance issues: finance management, private savings and deposits, credits, credit history, financial credit instruments, investment funds, and a lot of other topics.

The portal was created in close cooperation with the biggest Russian video service «Rutube». Within the framework of this cooperation large-scale events on the Russian Internet-television broadcast development are planned.

The project was supported by the National Association of the teleradiobroadcasting headed by Eduard Salagayev.

Widening its presence on the Internet, the project is developing also towards digital broadcasting television. Nowadays a special archive is being formed from the best programs and stories. When it will exceed 500 hours, the teleproject will be switched into the broadcast mode.

In the project arsenal there are best decisions on promotion of banking and microfinance services and products by the broadcasting television means. The experts can visit your office to record useful advice for the bank potential clients, we can organize issue of a telemagazine devoted to your MFI, bank, a meeting with people well-known in our country in the studio or to create a special telechannel where you can inform many millions of people about all nuances of product lines.

To receive more information on the project, please, contact NAMMS Executive Vice-President Lyudmila Sklyarenko at lsklyarenko@rmcenter.ru.

A Sub-committee on Microfinance Organizations and Credit Cooperatives Was Created at the State Duma

As per decision of the Committee on Financial Market of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation of 15 February 2008, a Sub-committee on Microfinance Organizations and Credit Cooperatives was created within the Committee.

The State Duma deputy Anatoliy Gubkin was appointed as the Committee on Microfinance Organizations and Credit Cooperatives Chairman. He is well-known in the microfinance community as an author of the draft law about modifying the Federal law «Of credit consumer cooperatives of citizens» (the draft law is being prepared to the first reading at the moment).

The standard statute about the Sub-committee is already approved; the working plan of the Sub-committee is being developed.

Such issues were related to the sphere of activity of the Sub-committee on Microfinance Organizations and Credit Cooperatives as, in particular, the work on the most important for the market draft laws about the microfinance organizations, about credit cooperation, about modifying the Federal law «Of credit consumer cooperatives of citizens», about modifying the law «Of banks and bank performance» aimed at the update of requirements to the management of the non-bank deposit-credit organizations.

On 15 February a working meeting of the NAMMS management with the Sub-committee Chairman Anatoliy Gubkin was held, where priorities of the Sub-committee in the law making performance for the 2008 year were discussed. The meeting resulted in the agreement about joint cooperation aimed at the fastest improvement of legislation, preventing full microfinance and credit cooperation development. Creation of the sub-committee is a result of Anatoliy Gubkin's initiative – evidence of acknowledgment of microfinance and credit cooperation as one of the priorities in the state policy and a big step to the full regulation in this sphere.

To receive more information about legislation issues and microfinance performance regulation, please, contact RMC Legal Adviser Anna Baitenova at abaitenova@rmcenter.ru.

Conference «Microfinance in Perm Kray: Perspectives of Development»

On 21 February 2008 the first regional conference «Microfinance in Perm Kray: Perspectives of Development» was organized in Perm by the Perm Kray Ministry of Trade and Entrepreneurship Development, «Perm Entrepreneurship Development Center» with the National Partnership of Microfinance Market Stakeholders (NAMMS) support.

The main goal of the conference was to form a system of microfinance organizations on the Perm Kray territory, building them into the All-Russian and global network of financial institutes, to attract funds from the Russian and international investors to the Perm Kray microfinance system.

The role and place of microfinance organizations in the financial sector development; the main tasks and program events on microfinance development for the period 2008-2010; the interaction of MFIs with bank community and other financial institutes; the regulation and self-regulation of microfinance organizations performance, and other questions were discussed at the conference.

Perm Kray executive and legislative bodies, municipal Funds for SME support, credit cooperatives, banks, insurance agencies, entrepreneurs and leaders of the organizations comprising the infrastructure of the Perm Kray entrepreneurship development participated in the conference.

Guests of the first regional conference were: Mikhail Mamuta – President of the National Partnership of Microfinance Market Stakeholders (NAMMS) and Russian Microfinance Center and Pavel Sigal – President of the biggest Russian microfinance organization – management company «Microfinance Center», Vice President of the «OPORA Russia» and NAMMS.

Participants of the regional conference «Microfinance in Perm Kray: Perspectives of Development» noted the growing role of microfinance in SME development and solving social problems of citizens.

To receive more information about regional programs of microfinance development, please, contact RMC Project Manager Maria Baum at abaum@rmcenter.ru.