



# How can we make Microfinance more useful to Women ?

Savings and Credit Forum  
in collaboration with SDC Gender Network

Thursday, March 8, 2012

Hotel Bern, Zeughausgasse 9, Bern

## DRAFT Programme

- 8:45 Registration and Coffee
- 9:15 **Introduction**  
Annemarie Sancar, SDC
- 9:25 **Empirical evidence of gender-specific financial behaviour**  
Linda Mayoux, Consultant
- 9:50 **Questions and answers**
- 10:00 **Why should MF providers make the effort to benefit women?**  
Linda Mayoux, Consultant
- How does WWB advocate its network members to make efforts to benefit their female clients**  
Inez Murray, Women's World Banking (WWB)
- 10:25 **Questions & Answers**
- 10:35 Break
- 10:50 **From access to empowerment: innovations in product design**  
Linda Mayoux, Consultant
- How does WWB support its network members in gender-sensitive product design**  
Inez Murray, WWB
- 11.20 **Questions & Answers**
- 11:30 **Increasing empowerment:** non-financial services and smart subsidies and how to include the specific needs of very poor and vulnerable women  
Linda Mayoux, Consultant
- How does WWB promote women's empowerment** within its network and beyond with non-financial services and **can WWB address the needs of very poor and vulnerable women**  
Inez Murray, WWB
- 12:00 **Questions & Answers**



12:10 **What can donors, investors, MF networks and governments do to promote women's empowerment**  
Linda Mayoux

**Examples of WWB's collaboration with donors, investors, MF networks and governments in promoting women's empowerment**  
Inez Murray, WWB

12:40 **Questions & Answers**

12:50 **Lunch**

14:15 **Case Study: Microfund for Women: Gender and microfinance in practice. Challenges and opportunities**  
Fatina Abu Okab, Microfund for Women (WWB Affiliate), Jordan

14:50 **Questions & Answers**

15:00 **Panel discussion**  
Linda Mayoux, Inez Murray, Fatina Abu Okab and Sabin Bieri (Researcher, Interdisciplinary Center for Gender Studies-IZFG, University of Bern)  
Moderator: Ruth Egger

16:00 **Wrap up and Closing**  
Hans Ramm, SDC

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16:20 **International Women's Day - Apéro**  
organized by the Office for Equal Opportunities, FDFA