



**Inaugural Meeting of the SME Finance Data Working Group**  
 G-20 Financial Inclusion Experts Group Sub-group: SME Finance  
 The Hague, May 25, 2010

## Key Takeaways and Action Plan

**Coordination.** The meeting reiterated the importance to leverage synergies from the financial access data work, and ensure that no data efforts get caught in silos. To ensure that all those different efforts “talk to each other” and are well coordinated, we need to think about a coordinating mechanism and/or leading institution to ensure the different pieces of the puzzle fit together. Further, in formulating any proposals for closing the current data gaps for SME Finance, one should differentiate the solutions that provide short-term results from the longer-term vision. To do:

1. Map different data sources/initiatives across the financial access and SME Finance space	IFC	End of June
2. Propose coordinating mechanism and/or leading institution	IFC to suggest / Co-Chairs to endorse	End of June / July (tbc)

**Institutional level data.** Building on the existing platform of the MIX in creating transparent and standardized data disclosure of microfinance institutions, the MIX was asked to take the lead in jointly exploring with the DFIs/IFIs how the platform could be leveraged to also include financial institutions primarily focusing on SME Finance. This process will further allow for the outsourcing of data collection at the portfolio level of the DFIs/IFIs’ financial institution clients. Special attention would be paid to respective incentives for reporting by different financial institutions.

3. Proposal to include SME Finance institutions in MIX and outsource portfolio reporting for DFIs/IFIs	MIX	End of August
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**Supply side data.** Building on the existing data collection of the IMF and CGAP/WB, as well as taking into account the experience of OECD in piloting the SME Finance Scoreboard, the Chair of the Data Working Group was asked to explore options for supply side data collection for SME Finance. This proposal would consider the use of loan and deposit size proxies to differentiate firm size.

4. Proposal for supply side data collection on SME Finance	Chair in consultation with IMF and CGAP/WB	End of August
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**Demand side data.** Building on the existing enterprise surveys in emerging markets as led by the World Bank, and jointly undertaken with EBRD and IADB, as well as taking into consideration similar surveys in developed markets, such as undertaken by the ECB, the Chair

was asked to prepare a proposal to address the following in future enterprise surveys: (i) the link to household surveys for seamless integration/use; (ii) the informal sector, (iii) the agricultural sector, and (iv) businesses with less than 5 employees.

5. Proposal for expanding demand side enterprise surveys	Chair	End of August
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**Additional consideration going forward.** The following agenda items would need to be considered within the context of the working group going forward: (i) Measuring impact of SME Finance, in particular on employment creation, growth, labor standards, and the link to non-financial interventions, the impact of financial infrastructure, different financial instruments such as equity, debt, leasing, and the impact of different public interventions, including guarantees. (ii) Demonstrating the link to stability, both on the demand and the supply side. (iii) Articulating a plan to address capacity issues at financial institutions to report data, in particular with respect to MIS and IT systems. (iv) Reviewing different approaches towards SME definitions, in particular in developing proxies for the supply side data collection. (v) Reviewing how best to build on existing data sources such as public registries and commercial credit bureaus to complement/support the respective data collection efforts.