

Invitation

All WLN Delegates Invited to Attend APEC Workshop on Micro-Credit and Women Entrepreneurs

Date: August 6, 2009
Time: 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM
Venue: Raffles City Convention Center (same as WLN)
Indiana Room
252 N. Bridge Road, Singapore - www.rafflescity.com.sg
Purpose: Explore How Micro-Credit Can Better Empower Women Entrepreneurs in the APEC Region
Information: **Please RSVP by Tuesday, August 4 to:**
dk@apec.org and sm@apec.org

The Women Leaders Network (WLN) is pleased to inform you that the APEC Gender Focal Point Network is sponsoring a "Workshop on Micro-Credit and Women Entrepreneurs". This workshop is a supplementary event to the WLN and will be held at the WLN venue on Thursday, August 6, 2009, 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. WLN delegates may attend this workshop free of charge, but attendance is limited to 50 participants on a first-come first-served basis.

This workshop, which coincides with the 14th WLN Meeting, will showcase best practices for micro-credit facilities and develop recommendations and new strategies for increasing women business owners' access to finance, though no direct micro-financing will be on offer during the workshop itself. The workshop aims to bring together WLN delegates and other stakeholders to explore ways to respond to the challenges faced by micro and small enterprise business owners, with an emphasis on women business owners, to become more resilient and recover from the current economic crisis.

The workshop agenda is attached for your information. The workshop organizers recognize that there are other programs being held at the same time, including a city tour and gender analysis training, and hope that you will see this as one of a number of options that allow WLN delegates to select the program that best meets their needs and interests.

The workshop will be held at the Raffles City Convention Center (same venue as the WLN). Please RSVP with your confirmation for this workshop by Tuesday, August 4 to David Katz (dk@apec.org) and Shinta Manurung (sm@apec.org). All matters related to this workshop are being managed by APEC, so please send any questions that you may have about this program to David or Shinta.

Updated - July 29, 2009



Agenda

Workshop on Micro-Credit and Women Entrepreneurs

August 6, 2009

Indiana Room - Raffles City Convention Center

252 N. Bridge Road, Singapore - www.rafflescitiy.com.sg

	8:30 – 9:00	Registration
	9:00 – 9:15	Opening Remarks – The Role of Women Entrepreneurs and Access to Credit for Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) in Building a More Prosperous and Equitable APEC Region Speaker: <i>Patricia Foley Hinnen, Executive Director, Capital Sisters International, Colorado</i>
Session 1	9:15 – 9:45	Micro-Credit Resources Available in APEC Region for Entrepreneurs including Women Owners of MSEs Speakers: <i>Mei-Hsueh Lin, Deputy Director General, Small and Medium Enterprise Administration, Chinese Taipei</i> <i>Ai Ando Ragatz, World Bank, Social Development Unit, Jakarta</i>
	9:45 – 10:00	Q&A
Session 2	10:00 – 10:30	Showcasing Successful Micro-Credit Initiatives in the APEC Region that Benefit Entrepreneurs including Women Owners of MSEs Speakers: <i>Virginia Littlejohn, CEO, Quantum Leaps, Washington, DC</i> <i>Saiful Islam, Manager for Asia, Women’s World Banking, New York</i>
	10:30 – 10:45	Q&A
	10:45 – 11:00	Coffee Break
Session 3	11:00 – 12:00	Panel Discussion – Agreeing on “Top Ten” Best Practices for Micro-Credit in APEC that Benefit Entrepreneurs including Women Owners of MSEs Panel Moderator: <i>Patricia Foley Hinnen</i> Panelists: <i>Mei-Hsueh Lin, Ai Ando Ragatz, Virginia Littlejohn, Saiful Islam</i>
	12:00	Closing Remarks – <i>Patricia Foley Hinnen</i>