

Women's Financial Inclusion Community of Practice



Frequently Asked Questions & Platforms

Frequently Asked Questions

Whose community of practice is this?

Yours! The community of practice is open to professionals working in women's financial inclusion. It has a steering committee of champions and members can join working groups. These are the bodies responsible for driving the agenda of the community of practice. As the facilitator, [CGAP](#) helps to provide the necessary platforms for engagement, coordinate logistics, and drive membership. The charter can be found [here](#) and anyone who can meet minimum time commitments can become a champion or a working group member by contacting the [facilitator](#).

What topics does the community of practice cover?

The COP is meant to be a platform for learning and exchange on a range of issues related to women's financial inclusion. Knowledge sharing around pressing questions of the day such as measurement frameworks for women's inclusion, understanding social norms, identifying scalable innovations, the role of data, potential and pitfalls of technology, and much more.

How can I join the community of practice?

Joining the community of practice is done by signing up for the email list [here](#), and joining the LinkedIn group [here](#). Regular calls for engagement are sent out on the email list and discussion threads are hosted on [LinkedIn](#).

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How can the community of practice help me conduct research on women's financial inclusion?

The [Microfinance Gateway](#) is a searchable database that hosts research publications and toolkits relevant to women's financial inclusion. To find out more about the database, follow the publications link on the [landing page](#) of the community of practice.

How can I find out about events and trainings?

Events and trainings are listed on the [Microfinance Gateway](#). To find out more about events, follow the events link on the [landing page](#) of the community of practice.

How can I find out about new products, partnerships, and initiatives?

The [Microfinance Gateway](#) hosts announcements relevant to women's financial inclusion, and also publishes "highlights" that feature individuals, products, and findings. To get to the announcements, follow the announcements link on our [landing page](#). Relevant highlights can be found by applying filters to publication type and theme on the Microfinance Gateway's publications. New products, partners, and initiatives are also featured in the monthly digests.

How can I play a more active role in the community of practice?

Members of the COP self-select to participate in the steering committee (champions) and in working groups. Champions and working group members use Slack to communicate. To join, please contact the COP facilitator, ybinhumam@worldbank.org

What are some examples of what I can do?

Members are encouraged to

- [Submit](#) publications, events, and announcements to the Microfinance Gateway
- Submit content for the monthly email digest (email: ybinhumam@worldbank.org)
- Use the "collaboration corner" of the digest to solicit input on your work from members
- Write blogs
- Share your expertise as panelists for COP webinars and other knowledge sharing fora
- Submit questions and insights during COP events
- Start and respond to discussion threads in the [LinkedIn Group](#)
- Join a working group

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- Become a champion and help set the broader strategic priorities of the COP.

How can I see who else is in the community of practice?

Joining the [LinkedIn group](#) of the community of practice is a way to see who else is engaged in the community of practice. Facilitators encourage everyone on the mailing list and in the working groups to join LinkedIn. On the [landing page](#) Steering committee members (also known as “champions”) are featured in the link on the top right, as are some of the working group members.

How can I pose a question to members of the community of practice?

There are two ways to solicit collaboration from the wider community. The first is to start or respond to a discussion thread in the [LinkedIn Group](#)! The second is to submit a paragraph for inclusion in the “collaboration corner” of the monthly digest. This usually includes the name of the organization, a brief description of the initiative in question, the “ask” for the members, a contact person or submission method.

How can I submit content for the monthly digest?

To submit content for the digest, please email ybinhumam@worldbank.org.

How can I send emails to the email list of the community of practice?

Only the facilitator is authorized to send emails over the list serve. If you have something urgent that you would like to share with the members of the COP, please contact ybinhumam@worldbank.org to discuss the best way to reach out.

Platforms

Landing Page

The function of the [landing page](#) is to inform potential new members of what the COP is and does. It also channels current members to appropriate resources including research, events, and announcements, while highlighting new findings of interest.

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Microfinance Gateway

The [Microfinance Gateway](#) is a curated resource repository. The Gateway serves as a database of publications of interest for women's financial inclusion. It also includes upcoming events, announcements of partnerships and initiatives, and is the site for webinars and blog posts written by and of interest to community members. The Microfinance Gateway is not exclusively used by the COP and is separately moderated and funded. COP members can submit content directly to Gateway moderators [here](#).

Email List

The function of the [email list](#) is to provide members regular updates on developments, and to alert them to opportunities for engagement. Members on the email list will receive:

- The digest with monthly updates including member snapshots, calls for collaboration, upcoming trainings and events, initiatives, research, tools, and interesting blogs, all directly related to women's financial inclusion.
- Regular updates on progress of the working groups
- Notifications of opportunities to engage with the working groups

All email communications will include a footer with: link to the [LinkedIn Group](#), and instructions how to subscribe to the [mailing list](#).

LinkedIn

The function of the [LinkedIn group](#) is to provide networking and broader discussion opportunities for COP members. Members who join the LinkedIn group can see the profiles and institutional affiliations of other community of practice members, and can initiate or respond to discussion threads. Many discussion threads will be initiated as a follow up to webinars, blogs, and other outputs of the COP. Rules of engagement for the LinkedIn Group can be found in the Group's rules section.

Slack

The function of Slack is to provide a workspace for COP champions and working group members. Essentially a chat forum, this is where the most dedicated and involved members of the COP come together to set the agenda of the working groups, develop work plans, edit shared documents and brainstorm forms of collaboration. Once a person has joined the Slack group, they have access to all of the channels in the group. Channels are set up to include a channel for each working group, a channel for COP champions, and event or initiative specific channels.

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To access Slack a person must be invited by the facilitator (please contact ybinhumam@worldbank.org). Broader members of the COP are updated on the outcomes of the Slack channels and invited to participate in working group related initiatives via the email list.