

Monthly Newsletter

134th edition

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Mission

Strengthen the capacity of micro-finance institutions and to promote effective collective action in the micro-finance community and its clients.

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Raised Awareness of Entrepreneurs on Financial Education in Ganja city, Barda, Shamkir and Zakatala rayons of Azerbaijan

In January 2019 within the EU funded project on "Accelerating development of sustainable micro-entrepreneurship in rural regions of Azerbaijan" project implemented by AMFA, seven Financial Education trainings on "Plan Your Future" were conducted in Barda, Ganja, Shamkir and Zagatala rayons. 206 men and women potential and existing Entrepreneurs from Gaja-Gazakh, Zagatala-Gax, Aran Economic Regions.





Training participants were acquired with basic knowledge on financial education applying a multitude interactive exercises and games. After the training course, participants identified financial goals, developed household budget and savings plan. Before and after each training participants filled in a survey form(questionnaire)that asked about their current financial behaviour (saving and borrowing), appropriatness of the session to their needs, their intentions to apply the knowledge and beyond this filled in questinaries asked about their demographic information.

The trainings were delivered by trainers Aytekin Bakhishova, Sevda Hüseynova, Gunay Huseynova and Elnara Alakparova.

During the trainings on Financial Education conducted by AMFA, Financial Institutions Markets Supervisory Authority (FIMSA) and Small and Medium Entrepreneurship Development Agency called "A Friend of SMEs" services of held presentations on 22 January 2019 in Barda and on January 25, 2019 in Shamkir. During presentations, training participants were pitched detailed informed about State Registry for Movable Property Encumbrance and "A Friend of SMEs" services.









Lobbying

Cooperation with the Chamber:Disbursment of non-collateral loans

FIMSA addressed the letter to AMFA, bank and non-bank credit organizations (Chamber) enquering for recommendations in respect to mechanisms for of innovative and non-collateral loans disbursment to individuals and legal entities embedded in agriculture. Member and non-member organizations of the Association have submitted their proposals to FIMSA on developing of innovative and non-collateral loans in agriculture, wheareas AMFA supported it by submitting additional recommendations on 15 January 2019.

Within the proposed recommendations it was indicated that agriculture is highly risky field, hence provision of agricultural loans to physical persons and legal entities could be possibe upon several conditions such as insurance of the agricultural produces, importance of increasing knowledge and skills of respecitive enterpreneurs and other conditions upon fulfillment of which lending of non-collateral loans in agriculture would be feasible.

Members' Corner

Standard & Poor's reaffirms the high rating of PASHA Bank

The international rating agency Standard and Poor's reaffirmed the high rating of PASHA Bank, leading corporate bank of Azerbaijan. Hence, the agency reaffirmed the long-term Issuing Bank Default Rating (IBDR) at 'BB-', and short-term IBDR at 'B'

The reaffirmation of the rating is based on an assessment of the market share of PASHA Bank in the corporate lending segment, indicators of geographical diversification compared to similar financial institutions, the quality of bank assets and other fundamental aspects.

The Chairman of the Executive Board of PASHA Bank Taleh Kazimov noted that the endorsement of the high rating by the Standard & Poor's agency once again demonstrates the recognition of the Bank as one of the leading financial institutions of Azerbaijan by the international expert community.

"The experts affirmed not only the stability and strong market position of the Bank, but also the high quality rate of expansion of the business geography of PASHA Bank in Azerbaijan, Turkey and Georgia. All this allows strengthening our position as a regional corporate investment bank and the reliable partner of the real sector", as T. Kazimov concluded his speech.

This rating is among the highest of all private banks in Azerbaijan with 100% local capital.



Gender oriented performance

International Women's Day Conference 2019 | FREE TICKETS



The Be Inspired Conference is set to return for a fifth year. Hosted at Wetherby Racecourse & Conference Centre.Our conferences have seen thousands of visitors attend from across the UK, there really is something for everyone and the best part is it's FREE to attend.

A day filled with inspiration, motivation and education.

There are a variety of activities that you can support at Be Inspired, network and support the 60 businesses exhibiting or book an exhibitor space to showcase your business or attend free of charge the 5 business workshops sessions throughout the day.

Speaker and Business workshop sessions must be pre-booked on Eventbrite or through our Yorkshire Ladies Links website prior to the conference.

To find out more about our conferences and events please take a look at our Yorkshire Ladies Links website

http://www.yorkshireladieslinks.co.uk/

For more detail: Contact Yorkshire Ladies Links





Frankfurt School e-learning programmes discount for AMFA members and partners!!!



German Excellence. Global Relevance.

We are delighted to announce that AMFA have renewed its partnership agreement with Frankfurt School that will allow AMFA members to obtain more advantages while exploring international education opportunities!

Frankfurt School e-learning programmes: discount for AMFA members and partners!!!

Frankfurt school offers online programmes related with microfinance helping to systematically develop qualifications. FSDF e-Campus online courses are conducted completely online, with the exception of the final exam (paper-based). Courses are offering in different languages: English, Russian (new), Spanish, French, German etc.

AMFA **Members** and **Partners** could attend the all courses on https://www.frankfurt-school.de/e -Campus with 10% discount for AMFA Members ,5% discount for partners. To get your member discount code please contact

Pustakhanim Mansimzada

Frankfurt School's Development Finance e-Campus programmes

- Master of Leadership in Development Finance (MA) online
- Certified Expert in Sustainable Finance
- Certified Expert in Digital Finance
- Certified Expert in Agricultural Finance
- Certified Expert in Microfinance (in English or French)
- Certified Expert in Islamic Microfinance
- Certified Expert in Financial Inclusion Policy
- Certified Expert in Financial & Managerial Accounting
- <u>Certified Expert in Microinsurance</u>
- Certified Expert in SME Finance (in <u>English</u> or <u>Russian</u>)
- Certified Expert in Risk Management (in English, French, Spanish or Russian)
- Certified Expert in Climate & Renewable Energy Finance

For more information please see link: Frankfurt-school





EMN Annual Conference



The next <u>EMN Annual Conference</u> will focus on the most important aspects highlighted by our members from our previous 15 annual events: Networking, Inspiration & Development. More than ever before, the aim of the conference is to encourage moments for participants to connect in order to prepare for the future

Save the date: Vienna, Austria - 6th June 2019

Early Bird registration will start on Monday 4th March

For more detailed: **EMN Annual Conference**





12th European Microfinance Research Award







The EMN is pleased to announce the re-launch of the <u>European Microfinance Research Award</u> on issues related to microfinance in the European Union and EFTA countries.

Once again, this year's award comes with a grant of €1,000.

Research papers exploring the **potential of cooperation between MFIs** will be especially valued as well as those focusing on **financial inclusion**. Other subjects are equally welcome, e.g. those related to job creation, information technology and innovation, social performance measurement, impact assessment and social entrepreneurship.

Young researchers are especially invited to present their work for this award!

The winner will be invited to attend the EMN's Annual Conference in Vienna and to publish an EMN working paper.

The selection process timeframe will be as follows:

Handing in of abstracts: Monday, March 11th 2019

Acceptance notification: Monday, March 17th 2019

Handing in of full papers: Monday, April 29th 2019

Please visit the EMN website to get further details on the call, selection criteria and full paper template.





SAVE THE DATE!

Save the date for the 2019 MFC Annual Conference: 29–31 May in Istanbul, Turkey



The MFC Annual Conference 2019 will be held from 29–31 May 2019 in Istanbul, Turkey

The Microfinance Centre is always one of the most significant regional events in the financial inclusion sector. As usual, MFC is putting together an impressive line-up of speakers, and designing an agenda that will help you network with your peers, share your experiences, learn about the latest trends and discuss best practice in financial inclusion.

Stay tuned for more news on the conference theme and workshops!

Read the report from the last MFC-EMN Annual Conference.

About Microfinance Centre (MFC) http://mfc.org.pl/



Azerbaijan Micro-finance Association



AMFA (Azerbaijan Micro-finance Association)





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