

Agenda

International Leadership Program for Microfinance Supervisors

June 16 – 20, 2025

Toronto, Canada, EDT

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This five-half-day virtual program is aimed at enhancing the capacity of supervisors to oversee the microfinance sector more effectively, while promoting change that supports availability, access and use of a full range of financial services and a sustainable and inclusive economy.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

This Toronto Centre (TC) program is designed in such a way as to reflect the current context globally and to support aligning supervisory frameworks with developmental landscapes:

- Supervising microfinance institutions (MFIs), village savings and loan associations, and other microfinancing activities
- Understanding Microfinance and its implication for financial stability
- Preventing misconduct and abusive practices: improving transparency, disclosure, and financial consumer protection
- Development roles for financial institutions, financial regulators and supervisors, non-governmental organizations, government, etc.
- Microfinance as a bridge for financial inclusion, financial literacy and food security
- Technology, a microfinance challenge and opportunity.

METHODOLOGY

TC is at the forefront of new and emerging issues relevant to financial services. TC uses a highly interactive teaching approach, using case studies, presentations and exercises. Participants will work in groups on activities about issues raised in a case study-based on real-life experiences and session material. Through this workshop, Toronto Centre raises awareness to identify key barriers to scaling up microfinance from a regulatory and supervisory perspective.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This program is aimed at senior and mid-level professionals from central banks, microfinance regulators and supervisors, and their reporting ministries from developing countries. Others from government agencies responsible for aspects of microfinance, the finance ecosystem, the economy or development and cooperation may also find the information of value. Participants should have at least three years of working experience in regulation, supervision, analytical or policy experience in the microfinance, and be proficient in English.

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Friday, June 6, 2025 - Program Networking and Orientation Session

7am – 7:30am	Registration <i>Anatol Monid, Senior Director, Programs, Toronto Centre</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participants dial into the system
7:30am – 8:15am	Welcome and Introduction to the Program <i>Anatol Monid, Senior Director, Programs, Toronto Centre</i>
8:15am – 9:15am	Networking – Participants' Roundtable Introduction <i>Technical Facilitator, Toronto Centre</i>
9:15am – 10:15am	Introduction to Action Planning Tools and Methodology <i>Anatol Monid, Senior Director, Programs, Toronto Centre</i>
10:15am – 10:45am	Introduction to MyTC & Zoom, Group Activities – Live Demo <i>Program Coordinator, Toronto Centre</i>
10:45am – 11am	Debrief – End of Day Evaluation

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Day 1, Monday, June 16, 2025	
7am – 7:30am	Welcome and Opening Remarks <i>Babak Abbaszadeh, President and CEO, Toronto Centre</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group Photo
7:30am – 8:30am	Session 1: Context Setting: Microfinance International Trends, Challenges & Opportunities <i>Anatol Monid, Senior Director, Programs, Toronto Centre</i>
8:30am – 9:15am	Session 2: A Regulatory Framework for Microfinance <i>Anatol Monid, Senior Director, Programs, Toronto Centre</i>
9:15am – 10:30am	Session 3: Risk Based Supervision in Microfinance <i>Peter Njuguna, Program Leader, Toronto Centre</i>
10:30am – 10:40am	Break
10:40am – 12pm	Session 4: Group Activity: Microfinance and Crisis Preparedness: Lessons from Covid-19 Pandemic <i>Dr Seth Kwame Anani, Program Leader, Toronto Centre</i>
12pm – 12:10pm	Debrief – End of Day Evaluation
12:10pm – 12:30pm	Action planning – Group Work

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Day 2, Tuesday, June 17, 2025	
7am – 7:30am	Summary of Previous Day - Ideas I Will Use
7:30am – 9am	Session 5: Microfinance: Women's Financial Empowerment <i>Ms. Yekbun Gurgoz, Program Leader, Toronto Centre</i>
9am – 10:30am	Session 6: Microfinance: Refugees, Climate Change, and Food Security <i>Ms. Yekbun Gurgoz, Program Leader, Toronto Centre</i>
10:30am – 10:40am	Break
10:40am – 12pm	Session 7: Group Activity: Implications of AML/CFT on Microfinance <i>Peter Njuguna, Program Leader, Toronto Centre</i>
12pm – 12:10pm	Debrief – End of Day Evaluation
12:10pm – 12:30pm	Action planning – Group Work

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Day 3, Wednesday, June 18, 2025	
7am – 7:30am	Summary of Previous Day - Ideas I Will Use
7:30am – 9am	Session 8: Protecting Consumers, Preventing Misconduct, and Abusive Practices in Microfinance <i>Peter Njuguna, Program Leader, Toronto Centre</i>
9am – 10:30am	Session 9: Financing Microfinance: Development Finance Institutions, Non-governmental Organizations, Governments <i>Dr Seth Kwame Anani, Program Leader, Toronto Centre</i>
10:30am – 10:40am	Break
10:40am – 12pm	Session 10: Group Activity: Microfinance and Technology Bridging the Financial Inclusion and Financial Literacy Gap <i>Dr. Seth Kwame Anani, Program Leader, Toronto Centre</i>
12pm – 12:10pm	Debrief – End of Day Evaluation
12:10pm – 12:30pm	Action planning – Group Work

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Day 4, Thursday, June 19, 2025	
7am – 7:30am	Summary of Previous Day - Ideas I Will Use
7:30am – 9am	Session 11: Overview of Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA) <i>Guest Speaker: Ms. Grace Majara, VSLA Global Director, CARE</i>
9am – 10:30am	Session 12: VSLA: Awareness and Supervision – Implications for Supervisors <i>Dr Seth Kwame Anani, Program Leader, Toronto Centre</i>
10:30am – 10:40am	Break
10:40am – 12:15pm	Session 13: Group Activity: VSLA Case Study <i>Peter Njuguna, Program Leader, Toronto Centre</i>
12:15pm – 12:30pm	Debrief – End of Day Evaluation

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Day 5, Friday, June 20, 2025	
7am – 7:30am	Summary of Previous Day - Ideas I Will Use
7:30am – 8:15am	<p>Session 14: Panel Discussion: The Future of Microfinance in a World of Uncertainty and Turmoil</p> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <p><i>Grace Majara, VSLA Global Director, CARE</i></p> <p><i>Peter Njuguna, Program Leader, Toronto Centre</i></p> <p><i>Dr Seth Kwame Anani, Program Leader, Toronto Centre</i></p> <p><i>Yekbun Gurgoz, Program Leader, Toronto Centre</i></p>
8:15am – 10:35am	<p>Session 15: Action Planning: Final Presentations by Participants / Country</p> <p><i>Anatol Monid, Senior Director, Programs, Toronto Centre</i></p>
10:35am – 10:45am	Break
10:45am – 11:45am	<p>Session 16 Action Planning: Final Presentations by Participants / Country</p> <p><i>Anatol Monid, Senior Director, Programs, Toronto Centre</i></p>
11:45am – 12:15pm	Awards of Certificate & Closing Ceremony
12:15pm – 12:30pm	Debrief – End of Day Evaluation