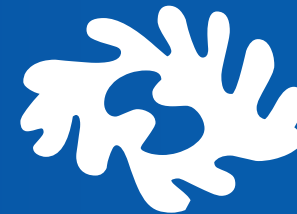


PROFILE



GHAMFIN

GHANA MICROFINANCE INSTITUTIONS NETWORK

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR THE
DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION OF
GOOD MICROFINANCE PRACTICES

OUR CONTACTS:

Executive Secretary
47 Blohum Street, Dzorwulu - Accra
P. O. Box AH 1392
Accra, Ghana

Tel: (+233) 0302 – 769961 / 0302 - 770322
Fax: (+233) 0302 -769962
Email: admin@ghamfin.org
Website: www.ghamfin.org



PROFILE OF GHANA MICROFINANCE INSTITUTIONS NETWORK (GHAMFIN)

ABOUT GHAMFIN:

GHAMFIN is a network of Microfinance Institutions that operate in Ghana. This network evolved from the concern of some Ghanaian Microfinance Institutions (MFI) for the development of best practices in delivery of Microfinance services. Their concerns and initiatives were promoted by a World Bank sponsored action research project, which sought to identify for wider application, innovative techniques of financial services delivery in Africa that had been successful in improving access of micro entrepreneurs to financial services. GHAMFIN was formally registered in 1998 as a company limited by guarantee, the Ghana Microfinance Institutions Network (GHAMFIN).

GHAMFIN seeks to promote the growth and development of the microfinance Industry in Ghana. The focus has been on building the capacity of MFIs to improve upon their performance and gathering information, thus, enabling them to provide long term and affordable access to financial services to meet the needs of their clients, majority of who are women, rural and poor.

GHAMFIN presents a common platform for the Rural & Community Banks, Savings & Loans Companies, Credit Unions, Financial NGO, Microfinance Companies Microinsurance companies and Susu collectors.

Vision

Centre of excellence for the development and promotion of good microfinance practices

Mission Statement

To co-ordinate and support the activities of MFIs with a view to promoting the development of an efficient and sustainable MFI industry in Ghana.

Corporate Goals

- To establish performance indicators and create a level playing field for purposes of self-regulation of microfinance in Ghana to assist members streamline their operations;
- To establish a readily accessible database on the microfinance industry in Ghana;
- To enhance productivity and efficiency of MFIs through training and access to best practice information;
- To provide access to continuous training for members to improve their capabilities for effective and efficient credit delivery and other related services;
- To promote all inclusive financial system;
- To enhance financial integration between the formal and informal sectors.
- To collaborate with Government, donors and other regional networks to solve common problems facing microfinance institutions and capacity building service providers and to source for funds for research and development.

Services:

- Organization and delivery of training in microfinance issues to build the human resource capacity for the microfinance sector;
- Performance benchmarking of MFIs in Ghana;
- Sourcing and dissemination of information on MFI best practices;
- Advocacy and lobbying on regulatory and policy issues.
- To increase social performance and client protection activities among the network members with the aim of help MFIs improve internal systems to achieve their social goals

Philosophy

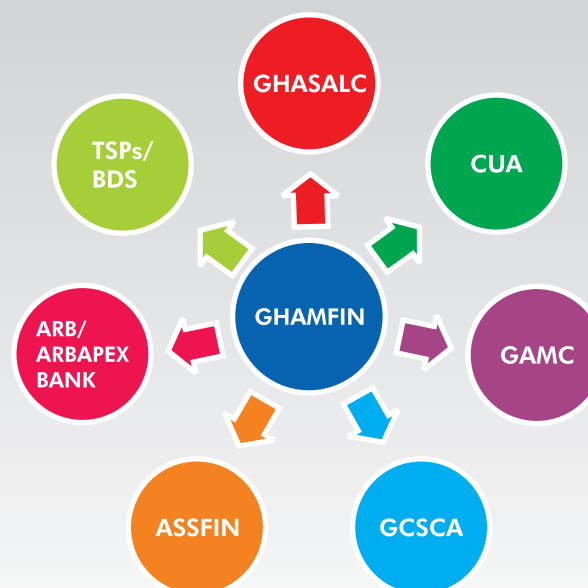
- GHAMFIN recognizes microfinance as a major tool for poverty alleviation.
- GHAMFIN embraces a broad definition of microfinance services - Credit, Savings, Insurance, Financial and non - financial instruments.
- GHAMFIN believes microfinance needs to be recognized as a vital part of the financial system, dedicated to meeting needs of the poor.
- GHAMFIN recognizes that it needs to build strong and financially sustainable institutions for the industry to develop.
- GHAMFIN recognizes that the Microfinance industry is still nascent and requires various interventions to increase outreach and attain sustainability
- GHAMFIN believes in the institutionalization of microfinance programmes and institutions that have a strong local/indigenous base and representation in their governing and management organs.

Why Join GHAMFIN

Membership to GHAMFIN is a sign of commitment to the ideals that GHAMFIN seek to promote.

Membership benefits include:

- Building your institution's profile regionally and internationally.
- Having a voice in shaping the future of the microfinance industry in Ghana.
- Access to various forums where members make contacts, share and gather information and build consensus on industry issues.
- Access to a wide range of services from GHAMFIN including information, capacity building, technical assistance and advertising opportunities in GHAMFIN's publications and website.
- Networking with GHAMFIN's global and regional partners.



The membership of GHAMFIN is made up of the apex bodies as shown above and its members. The ARB is the advocacy body for the rural banks and the ARB Apex Bank is the operational apex body for the rural banks.