

Summary

Microinsurance Conference 2007

13–15 November 2007, Mumbai, India



Parallel Session 6 – Regulation, supervision and policy Regulating mutuals and cooperatives

Camillo Casals, RIMANSI Philippines

The session will present the Philippine experience in harnessing the mutual benefit association as a vehicle for mobilizing rural and urban poor households to access. Although MBAs have had a mixed track record in the Philippines, CARD MBA has shown that this organizational approach when undertaken in partnership with a stable MFI can operate viably and significantly increase micro-insurance outreach. Lessons learned in the establishment of 5 new micro-insurance MBAs throughout the Philippines

The two key elements facilitating the promotion of micro-insurance MBAs, namely a supportive and performance based regulatory framework and an institutional development facilitator are also discussed.

The session seeks to provide policy makers and social entrepreneurs with insights and lessons learned in facilitating the development of a micro-insurance sector in the country.

Session Title	Description	Time	Resource Person
Overview of MBAs in the Philippines	The segment will present why notwithstanding the mixed performance record of MBAs in the Philippines the micro-insurance MBA may still prove to be a viable differentiated approach to providing the poor with improved access to risk protection services. The CARD MBA experience is presented together with issues and problems faced by MFIs and cooperatives providing in-house insurance. Dimensions of member participation in ownership, governance and business results are discussed.	20 min	Dr. Aris Alip President, RIMANSI

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<p>Development of a Regulatory Framework for Micro-insurance MBAs (with open forum of 10 min)</p>	<p>The regulatory provisions for MBAs and performance issues of MBAs are discussed from the point of view of the Insurance Commission. The evolving framework and performance monitoring scheme for micro-insurance MBAs is presented</p>	<p>25 min</p>	<p>Commissioner Evangeline Escobillo Insurance Commission</p>
<p>The Role of a Development Support Provider in Facilitating Micro-insurance MBAs: RIMANSI as resource center (with open forum of 10 min)</p>	<p>An update is provided on efforts to promote access to micro-insurance through a national network of 5 new micro-insurance MBAs. The development process as well as the challenges and issues faced towards formal registration, licensing and operational start up are presented and discussed. The concept and operation of a resource center are likewise presented together with lessons learned.</p>	<p>30 min</p>	<p>Epifanio Maniebo Executive Director, RIMANSI</p>

The session will present the dynamics of regulation and practice in the formative stages of a micro-insurance sector in the Philippines. An insurance code that allows for the registration and licensing of mutual benefit associations ante-dates CARD-Mutual Benefit Association, the pioneer in country in harnessing the MBA as an institutional vehicle for mobilizing rural and urban poor households to access insurance services. The pertinent provisions of the code that govern MBA registration and licensing will be discussed in the context of how well it laid the framework for MBAs that focused on insurance for the poor.

Concerns over outreach, protection of policy holders, and solvency marked the early stages of the policy dialogue between the Insurance Commission and proponents of the mutual benefit approach to micro-insurance. Insurance Memorandum Circular No. 9-2006 will be described as a regulatory response that sought to balance these concerns. The unfinished business of defining performance standards for micro-insurance within broader industry standards is noted.



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Agenda

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The role played by a client owned micro-insurance resource center, i.e., RIMANSI, in facilitating policy dialogue between MBAs and regulators and promoting self-regulated market conduct is also discussed. Finally, concern over how regulation and policy will respond to the anticipated changes in strategy of micro-insurance MBAs as the demand profile of members evolves is outlined.