

Minutes of the Working Group on Agricultural Insurance, Microinsurance Network

Date: Tuesday, November 3, 2009

Place: Hotel Le Meridien President, Saloon B06, Dakar, Senegal

Time: 11:20 am-12:50 pm

Attendees:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	AFFILIATION	EMAIL
Aguela Palmieri	Jose Luis	Accion Internacional	Joseluis.aguela@paralife.com.co
Anderson	Jamie	IFAD	j.anderson@ifad.org
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Jones	Jim	Illinois State University	james.jones@ilstu.edu
Leftley	Richard	MicroEnsure	richard.leftley@microensure.com
Prashad	Pranav	ILO Microinsurance Innovation Facility	prashad@ilo.org
Ramm	Gabriele	GTZ	Gramm25652@aol.com
Rispoli	Francesco	IFAD	f.rispoli@ifad.org
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Tremblay	Catherine	Développement International Desjardins	ctremblay@did.qc.ca
Virani	Altaf	IFMR	Altaf.virani@ifmr.ac.in
Wenner	Mark	IDB	markw@iadb.org
Zenklusen	Oliver	Fair Trade Insurance Initiative	zenklusen@fairtradeinsurance.net

Objective:

Promote agricultural insurance (crop and livestock) as a modern financial risk management tool that can be used to protect assets, reduce rural poverty, and enhance farm productivity, thereby contributing to increased rural incomes and improved farmer welfare.

Main activities of the working group will include information exchange, peer review of documents, dissemination of lessons learned and best practices, and collaboration in the design and implementation of projects.

The group realized that agricultural insurance is just one instrument in a larger array of available agricultural risk management tools and that to be effective, a coordinated and layered approach is needed. However, in order to maintain focus and not overtax resources, the group will work to promote the development of efficient, affordable, and sustainable agricultural insurance but still gather and share interesting and relevant information on the use of other instruments, namely innovations in on farm extension services, conservation farming, financial literacy, savings promotion, ROSCAs, catastrophic disaster insurance, etc.

Process:

The working group will meet on a quarterly basis, three times virtually, and once in person at the Annual Microinsurance Conference.

The facilitator will convene the meetings, set the agenda through round robin communication, post minutes of meetings, keep track of workplan execution, coordinate and liaison with the Microinsurance Network Secretariat, the Executive Committee, and other working groups, and assist in mobilizing resources.

The adopted workplan will be implemented via subcommittee structure. A subcommittee consisting of 3-4 interested parties will form for each major item in the workplan and they will assume responsibility for delivering the work product. The subcommittees will make periodic progress reports to the larger group and can seek assistance from other working group members as needed as well as from other established working groups within the Microinsurance Network.

Exchange of Information:

The members present reported on activities and projects related to agricultural insurance they currently are engaged in or initiatives that are about to start. Each member agreed to submit a one page Word document summarizing activities of his or her organization in agricultural insurance to the Facilitator for posting on the MIN webpage.

Workplan for 2010

1. Exchange of Information: Each member promised to electronically post information of current activities related to agricultural insurance to the MIN website and maintain the information up-to-date.
2. Prepare and publish a report on Minimal Conditions Needed for Effective Implementation of Area Yield and Weather Index Agricultural Insurance Products
Subcommittee: Alok Shukla (leader), Oliver Zenklusen, Mathieu Dubreuil, Mark Wenner
3. Prepare and publish a report How to Overcome Data Limitations in the Design of Agricultural Insurance Products

Subcommittee: Pranav Prashad (leader), Gaby Ramm, Jim Jones,
Catherine Temblay,

4. Update the list of publications dealing with agricultural insurance contained in “Microinsurance Aspects in Agriculture”. 2007. Munich Re and GTZ. Document is posted on Munich Re Foundation website.

Volunteer: Roland Steinmann

5. Links/Requests to Other Groups

Education: Financial Literacy—Insurance Education among Farmers
Critical

Technology---Use of RFID technology in livestock insurance

Distribution Channels—Insurance Companies have virtually no presence in rural areas, need partners.

Announcements: Upcoming Publications

1. IFAD. Case Studies in Weather Index Insurance March 2010
2. IFAD Evaluation of Sustainability and Scalability of Weather Index Insurance March 2010
3. CIRM-IFMR State of Livestock Insurance May 2010

Facilitator: Mark D. Wenner

Date: November 8, 2009