The role and functions of the Alliance for Financial Inclusion

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1 This presentation was prepared for the workshop. The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the BIS or the central banks and other institutions represented at the workshop.
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Sung-Ah Lee, AFI
1. About AFI
2. Data in policy making
3. Data in the AFI network
4. FIDWG and its approach
5. How FIDWG fits with other areas and initiatives
Who we are

• AFI is a global network of financial sector policymakers in developing and emerging countries

• Founded in 2008, AFI focuses on peer learning and knowledge sharing among policymakers and regulators

• The goal of the AFI network is to accelerate the adoption of successful financial inclusion policy solutions

AFI Values

Inclusivity: all partners and proven solutions are welcome

Diversity: unique member conditions, unique member solutions

Demand-Driven: action is derived from member needs and demands

Empowerment: unlocking the knowledge of the AFI membership

Ownership: members shape and drive AFI activities

Alignment: actions reflect national priorities of the AFI membership

Evidence based: focus on practical solutions with evidence
95 member institutions from 81 countries
The importance of Data in the network

Data and measurement is key for evidence based policy making!

- Diagnose the state of financial inclusion
- Design appropriate policies
- Monitor changes over time
- Evaluate policy impact

Strong demand from member institutions to discuss and learn from each other
Financial Inclusion Data in the AFI network

It started in June 2010 at this very place…

“To provide access to financial services tailored to the needs of the population”

Banco do Brazil

“The process of ensuring access to financial services and timely and appropriate product to all members of the population and vulnerable groups at an affordable cost in a fair and transparent manner by the mainstream institutional players.”

Reserve Bank of India

“Broad access to a portfolio of financial products and services which include loans, deposit services, insurance, pensions and payment systems, as well as financial education and consumer protection mechanisms”

Superintendencia de Banca, Seguros y AFP (SBS) del Peru

“Financial Inclusion refers to the access and use of a portfolio of financial products and services for the majority of adult population with clear and concise information attending the growing demand under an appropriate regulatory framework”.

National Banking Commission in Mexico
Let’s agree on the elements (Access, Usage, Quality) and a common framework

Objectives

- Develop a common framework among AFI members for measuring financial inclusion
- Share lessons learned on survey methodology, analysis, target setting and usage of data to inform policymaking
- Promote the adoption of the framework in a broader international context

The main purpose of Data in the AFI network is to inform national policy making
AFI’s approach on Financial Inclusion Data

- Develop technical capacity in countries
- Testing new (second generation) indicators in practice
- Develop/choose indicators that best inform each country’s policy making while keeping consistency
- Resist global target setting

Each country is able to collect and monitor their own comprehensive FI indicators
FIDWG in the broader network

Financial Inclusion Strategy

Consumer Empowerment and Market Conduct

Financial Inclusion Data

Mobile Financial Services

Pacific Island Working Group
Recognized data as a priority

Created a subgroup on Data & Measurement

AFI’s Data Working Group is represented in the Subgroup through Mexico, Brazil, South Africa, and AFI

The Core Set of indicators have been adopted by the GPFI and was the basis for the GPFI Basic set of indicators

Close collaboration on quality indicators
Thank you