

SME FINANCE FORUM AFFILIATE APPLICATION FORM
OVERVIEW

Affiliation with the International Finance Corporation's SME Finance Forum (Forum) is open to a broad range of institutions that promote access to finance for small and medium enterprises (SMEs), including research/academic institutions, policy/regulatory agencies, media outlets and event organizers, SME-focus development institutions, associations of banks, non-bank financial institutions, development finance institutions, and fintech companies. To become an Affiliate, please complete the application form set forth below and email it to Hourn Thy (hthy@ifc.org).

NOTE: Completing this application form does not automatically enroll you. Once your application has been reviewed and your eligibility to become an Affiliate has been determined, we will contact you with further information.

ABOUT YOUR INSTITUTION
INSTITUTION TYPE (Please check appropriate type below)

Policy Partner	Marketing Partner	Content partner
☐ International organization	☐ Media Outlet	☐ Think Tank
☐ Regulatory body / Government	☐ Online media	☐ Consulting firm
☐ International non-governmental organization	☐ Event Organizer	☐ Academia / Research

Association

☐ NBF/MFI Association	☐ Credit Guarantee Association
☐ Trade Association	☐ DFI Association
☐ Banking Association	☐ Fintech Association
☐ SME Association	

Other

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AREAS OF EXPERTISE (Please check appropriate expertise below)

☐ General SME Finance / Financial inclusion / Financing for Development	☐ Credit Guarantee
☐ Risk rating/ Scoring/Data	☐ SME enabling/ Non-financial services
☐ Sustainability/Green/Climate Finance/ESG	☐ Regulatory/policy insights

☐ Women's Entrepreneurship Finance	☐ Digitalization/ fintech
☐ Rural/agrifinance	☐ Financial literacy
☐ Supply Chain Finance	
Other	

ORGANIZATION PROFILE			
Organization's mission and vision:			
Year Founded*: _____		No. of full-time Employees*: _____	
Geographic Focus (for a detailed list of countries under each region, please refer to the IFC Regional Classification)**			
☐ East Asia & the Pacific	☐ Europe & Central Asia	☐ Latin America & the Caribbean	☐ Middle East & North Africa
☐ North America	☐ South Asia	☐ Sub-Saharan Africa	☐ Western Europe
Shareholders, if applicable*			
Name:		Percentage Ownership:	
Name:		Percentage Ownership:	
Name:		Percentage Ownership:	
Name:		Percentage Ownership:	
Name:		Percentage Ownership:	
Fill in additional information below:			
Are you an existing client of IFC or affiliated with IFC?			
☐ Yes ☐ No			

*Denotes required information

**Please consider all your holdings and check multiple boxes if necessary

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

Name:		Title:	
Name:		Title:	
Fill in additional information below:			

HEADQUARTERS ADDRESS *

Address 1:			
Address 2:			
City:		State/Province:	
Country:		Postal Code:	
Main Telephone:		Company Email:	
Website:			

CONTACT PERSONS
Senior Official

(This is the senior person in your institution who has approved participation in the Forum's activities)

Name:		Title:	
Address:			
Telephone:			
Email:			

Primary Contact

(This is the contact person in your institution who will manage the relationship with the Forum's representatives)

Name:		Title:	
Address:			
Telephone:			
Email:			

ENGAGEMENT

Let us know how you envision our collaboration and the nature of your contribution.

Please check appropriate engagement level below

- ☐ Mutual promotion and outreach
- ☐ Speaking engagement and event ticket discount
- ☐ Combining knowledge for joint initiatives: event, survey, training...
- ☐ Innovation Hub Chair or other roles within those hubs (Digital and Embedded Finance, Supply Chain Finance, Risk Management, Women's Entrepreneurship Finance, Agri-Finance, Capacity Building and Skills, DFI/CG Peer Group Networks)
If relevant, take this [short survey](#) to indicate in which Hub you would like to be involved.
- ☐ Sponsorship for specific activities: hackathon, research...
- ☐ In-kind contribution: study tours, expert inputs, event production efforts...
- ☐ Help with policy advocacy
- ☐ Network and market expansion

Other

AFFILIATION AGREEMENT AND DECLARATION

1. Forum Affiliates. Each entity that executes this Agreement shall have access to knowledge products and resources on the Forum website (<http://www.smefinanceforum.org>) (the "**Forum Website**"). Such content and resources may include access to member-only learning events such as webinars, community of practices and, annual conferences (the number of tickets assigned to each Affiliate to be decided by the Forum in its sole discretion). Subject to the terms of this Agreement and the terms of use for the Forum Website, which are incorporated into this Agreement by this reference, IFC hereby grants to the Forum Affiliate signing this Agreement, during the Term (as defined below), a non-exclusive, non-transferable license, without the right to sub-license, to access and use, reproduce, distribute, display, download, store and transmit the content available on the Forum Website solely for Forum Affiliate's internal purposes and to cite such content in Forum Affiliate's research.

Requirements. Forum Affiliate represents and warrants that it has accurately completed and submitted the Forum participation application form made available by IFC in accordance with the directions set forth on such form. Acceptance into, and retention in, the Forum shall be in IFC's sole discretion, and IFC may elect not to accept an entity as a Forum Affiliate. IFC may terminate a Forum Affiliate's rights to any or all elements of the Forum, at any time for any or no reason. If any information provided by Forum Affiliate is false, incomplete, or inaccurate, IFC may either ask for clarification or, in its discretion, terminate Forum Affiliate's rights to any or all elements of the Forum. Forum Affiliate further agrees to maintain and update the information provided on the application form, as required, to keep it current, complete and accurate. The Forum Affiliate may offer useful in-kind benefits to the Forum, including



access to and/or speaking roles at Affiliate's events (virtual and in-person), introductions to prospective members, and promotion of the Forum's services to Forum Affiliate's members/constituents.

Eligibility criteria: to become eligible as an Affiliate of the Forum, an institution must meet at least two of the following criteria:

1. Have a (membership) network of SME-focused institutions.
2. Be able and willing to contribute knowledge/content that complements that of the Forum.
3. Be able and willing to support marketing, communication, event production efforts of the Forum.
4. Be a policy / regulatory body.
5. Be a non-profit institution.
6. Be an institution that can demonstrate and share best practices in relation to access to finance and services to SMEs and be able and willing to make in-kind contributions such as hosting study tours, providing expert inputs, supporting thematic innovations, partnering on mutual members networks engagement, expanding market outreach, and supporting SME finance policy change initiatives etc.

2. Representations and Warranties. Forum Affiliate represents and warrants to IFC that: (i) it has the full power and authority to execute this Agreement and perform its obligations hereunder; (ii) the execution, delivery or performance of this Agreement has been authorized by all necessary action, and will not violate or breach any obligation of the Forum Affiliate to any third party, including under a contract to which the Forum Affiliate is a party or by which it is bound, and (iii) the execution, delivery or performance of this Agreement will not violate any applicable law or regulation.

3. Disclaimers

a. IFC may modify, limit, suspend or cease providing the Forum Website or any associated content, in whole or in part, at any time in its sole discretion by posting a notice on the Forum Website. IFC does not warrant that use of the Forum Website will be uninterrupted or error free. Use of the Forum Website shall be at the sole risk of the Forum Affiliate.

b. IFC SHALL NOT BE LIABLE TO FORUM AFFILIATE OR ANY THIRD PARTY FOR SPECIAL, INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, PUNITIVE, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES OF ANY KIND, EVEN IF IFC HAS BEEN NOTIFIED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES. IN NO EVENT SHALL IFC'S AGGREGATE LIABILITY UNDER THIS AGREEMENT, WHETHER TO FORUM AFFILIATE OR ANY THIRD PARTY, WITH RESPECT TO ANY AND ALL CLAIMS AT ANY AND ALL TIMES, IN CONTRACT, TORT, OR OTHERWISE, EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF ONE THOUSAND UNITED STATES DOLLAR (US\$1,000)

IN NO EVENT SHALL IFC HAVE ANY LIABILITY FOR ANY THIRD-PARTY LOSSES, CLAIMS OR DAMAGES ARISING, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, FROM THE ACTS OR OMISSIONS OF FORUM AFFILIATE. TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, IFC HEREBY DISCLAIMS ALL WARRANTIES OF ANY KIND, WHETHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, STATUTORY OR OTHERWISE. TO THE EXTENT THAT IFC MAY NOT, AS A MATTER OF APPLICABLE LAW, DISCLAIM ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OR LIMIT ITS LIABILITIES, THE SCOPE AND DURATION OF SUCH WARRANTY AND THE EXTENT OF IFC'S LIABILITY SHALL BE THE MINIMUM PERMITTED UNDER SUCH APPLICABLE LAW.

c. Forum Affiliate shall defend, indemnify and hold IFC and its affiliates and their respective officers, directors, agents and employees harmless from and against any and all damage, loss, liability, cost or expense (including reasonable attorneys' fees and costs) that IFC or its affiliates may suffer or incur arising from, related to, or as a result of any claim or demand related to this Agreement arising out of the acts or omissions of Forum Affiliate.

4. Term and Termination

a. The initial term of this Agreement ("**Initial Term**") shall commence on the date of IFC's notice to Forum Affiliate that IFC has accepted its application to become a Forum Affiliate and shall continue thereafter until terminated by either party in accordance with the terms of this Section for a period of two years unless earlier terminated by either the Forum Affiliate or IFC in accordance with this Section. Thereafter, the Agreement will be automatically renewed for further two-year periods. The Initial Term and renewal terms, if any, are referred to collectively as the "Term".

b. Either IFC or Forum Affiliate may terminate this Agreement, in whole or in part, at any time, upon thirty (30) days' prior written notice to the other party either by hand, courier or registered mail, return receipt requested. Any such notice to the Affiliate shall be sent to its headquarters address as listed in the Affiliate application form above, and



any such notice to the Forum shall be to "SME Finance Forum, c/o International Finance Corporation, 2121 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington D.C. 20433, United States of America."

5. Intellectual Property Rights. The Affiliate recognizes and agrees that all intellectual property and other rights of IFC in the names "International Finance Corporation," "IFC," "World Bank Group" and "SME Finance Forum," and all related trademarks and logos (collectively, the "IFC Marks"), are the sole and exclusive property of IFC. Subject as hereinafter provided, IFC hereby grants to the Affiliate a limited, non-exclusive, royalty-free, worldwide license to use the IFC Marks solely in any advertising and promotional materials related to the SME Finance Forum and its activities as an Affiliate of the SME Finance Forum; provided that, prior to any use of the IFC Marks, the Affiliate shall first submit the proposed use of the IFC Marks to IFC for approval, such approval to be within IFC's sole discretion. The Affiliate shall not use any of the IFC Marks for any purpose before it has received IFC's written approval. Once approved, the Affiliate may use the IFC Marks solely in the manner approved until IFC provides a notice in writing to the Affiliate to cease use of the IFC Marks. The Affiliate shall immediately cease all use of the IFC Marks upon it ceasing to be an Affiliate, upon any termination or expiration of this Agreement or following receipt of a notice in writing from IFC to cease all use of the IFC Marks. The Affiliate acknowledges that any goodwill arising from the use of the IFC Marks shall accrue solely for the benefit of IFC.

6. General

- a. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to make IFC or Forum Affiliate an agent, employee, joint venturer, partner, franchisee-franchisor, or legal representative of the other.
- b. The Parties undertake to endeavor in good faith to resolve any differences and disputes arising under, or in connection with, this Agreement by amicable settlement. Any controversy
- c. or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement that cannot be settled amicably, shall be settled by reference to senior management of each of the Parties at a level appropriate for the nature of the dispute. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as a waiver, renunciation or modification of any immunities, privileges or exemptions of IFC accorded under its Articles of Agreement, international convention or any applicable law.
- d. The Parties undertake to endeavor in good faith to resolve any differences and disputes arising under, or in connection with, this Agreement by amicable settlement. Any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement that cannot be settled amicably, shall be settled by reference to senior management of each of the Parties at a level appropriate for the nature of the dispute. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as a waiver, renunciation or modification of any immunities, privileges or exemptions of IFC accorded under its Articles of Agreement, international convention or any applicable law.
- e. Forum Affiliate shall not issue any press release or other similar public announcement concerning this Agreement without the prior written approval of IFC, and even with such approval, Forum Affiliate shall disclose only the existence of this Agreement and not its terms and conditions. Forum Affiliate hereby grants to IFC the right to use Forum Affiliate's name, logo, and contact details on the Forum Website (or landing page) maintained by IFC or any promotional materials identifying it as a Forum Affiliate with respect to the Forum. Forum Affiliate also consents to the use of its name by IFC in connection with use by IFC in fulfillment of IFC's reporting obligations under its Articles of Agreement.
- f. Forum Affiliate acknowledges that IFC is subject to the terms and conditions of the IFC Access to Information Policy, a copy of which is publicly available on the IFC website at www.ifc.org/Disclosure. IFC may from time to time make certain Forum Affiliate information available to the public in accordance with the terms and conditions of such policy, and Forum Affiliate hereby consents to such disclosure.
- g. The Parties undertake to endeavor in good faith to resolve any differences and disputes arising under, or in connection with, this Agreement by amicable settlement. Any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement that cannot be settled amicably, shall be settled by reference to senior management of each of the Parties at a level appropriate for the nature of the dispute. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as a waiver, renunciation or modification of any immunities, privileges or exemptions of IFC accorded under its Articles of Agreement, international convention or any applicable law.
- h. Forum Partner may not assign any of its rights or obligations or otherwise delegate any of its duties under this Agreement without the prior written consent of IFC. Notwithstanding IFC's consent to any delegation of Forum Partner's duties to a third party, it shall be Forum Partner's obligation to ensure that such third party performs its obligations in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement. The control, operation and maintenance of the Forum Website, and all content, including data, resident therein, as well as any other rights and obligations



of IFC under this Agreement may be transferred to any third party upon notice by IFC to Forum Partner. This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Parties and their respective successors, permitted assigns and legal representatives.

- i. The terms of use, privacy policy and copyright statement for the Forum Website are incorporated herein by this reference. This Agreement together with the terms of use, privacy policy and copyright statement for the Forum, constitutes the complete and exclusive statement of the terms, conditions and representations of the agreement between IFC and Forum Partner with respect to the subject matter hereof, and supersedes all other agreements with respect to the subject matter hereof. This Agreement may be modified or amended only by written agreement of the Parties. In the event of a conflict between the terms and conditions of the main body of this Agreement and the terms and conditions of any other document referred to or linked to in this Agreement, the terms and conditions of the main body of this Agreement shall prevail and control.

Organization Legal Name:

Signatory Name:

Title:

Signature:

Date:

Please submit your completed and signed application via email to the attention of: hthy@ifc.org