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The [Financial Access Initiative](#) is a consortium of researchers at NYU, Yale, Harvard and IPA focused on finding answers to how financial sectors can better meet the needs of poor households. FAI is housed at the Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at New York University.

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Microfinance Impact & Innovation Conference



Save the Dates!

**October 21st-23rd
2010, New York City**

Featuring Researchers,
Microfinance
Practitioners and
Industry Leaders
including:

Esther Duflo (MIT)

Dean Karlan (Yale)

Asad Mahmood (Deutsche Bank)

Jonathan Morduch (NYU)

Sendhil Mullainathan (Harvard)

Jody Rasch (Moody's Investors Service)

Jonathan Zinman (Dartmouth)

Microfinance reaches over 200 million clients globally, many of them impoverished and financially excluded. While the breadth and depth of outreach is impressive, there is comparatively little knowledge of which products and services work best for the poor and why. For over five years, the Financial Access Initiative, Innovations for Poverty Action, and the Jameel Poverty Action Lab have conducted dozens of rigorous studies to fill the knowledge gaps. This event, the Microfinance Impact and Innovation Conference, was created as a unique forum for both communication of accumulated knowledge as well as the generation of innovations in both microfinance product design and research. Sessions will touch on topics including microcredit, interest rates, microsavings and business training, among others, framed by questions of product design, marketing, usage and impact. Questions and issues to be discussed include:

- What is the impact of microfinance on the poor?
- How to increase savings behavior among the poor?
- How do interest rates affect the demand for microfinance products?
- How to design appropriate consumer regulation?
- Does business training help microenterprises?
- Microinsurance - impact and product design

The conference will include sessions relevant for:

- ***Investors***
- ***Microfinance Institutions***
- ***Microfinance Network Organizations***
 - ***Regulators***
 - ***Policymakers***
 - ***Donors***
 - ***Researchers***

Help Create the Next Generation of Microfinance Innovation and Research!

The third day of the conference will host a matchmaking symposium between researchers and practitioners to create and support the next generation of microfinance product innovation and

rigorous research. We are soliciting ideas for this symposium. If you are a practitioner and are interested, please submit an idea by clicking [here](#). If you are a researcher and would like to submit an idea, please click [here](#). More information to follow!

Join us for an opportunity for microfinance researchers and practitioners to come together and create the next generation of microfinance innovation and research.

This event is hosted by the [Financial Access Initiative \(FAI\)](#), [Innovations for Poverty Action \(IPA\)](#), the [the Jameel Poverty Action Lab \(J-PAL\)](#), [Moody's Corporation](#), [Deutsche Bank](#), and the [Consultative Group to Assist the Poor \(CGAP\)](#).

Stay tuned for registration information and a more detailed conference agenda.

The [Financial Access Initiative](#) was launched with funding from the [Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation](#) and [American International Group, Inc.](#) to the [NYU Wagner Graduate School](#). Research by FAI researchers is also supported by the U.S. National Science Foundation, the Ford Foundation, The World Bank, CGAP, and other organizations.

Questions? Comments? Please contact us at contact@financialaccess.org

www.financialaccess.org

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