



## Promoting Afghanistan's Development Finance Sector

### AMA Partnership with USAID's Promote|WIE Project

AMA signed two grant agreements with Women In Economy (WIE) project of Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI) in November 2016 funded by USAID under its larger project of "Promote". The projects duration is for two years, starting from November 15, 2016.

The objective of the first project "Access to Finance Matchmaking Roundtable" is to connect and aware potential businesses/clients, with financial institutions, that are in need of loan from the financial institutions. Through this project, AMA will conduct 34 matchmaking roundtables in four selected provinces.

The objective of the second project "Internship Program in the Microfinance Sector" is to enhance the technical and managerial skills of women candidates in their selected fields and increase their employment in Microfinance Institutions (MFIs).

Both projects will be implemented in Kabul, Nangarhar, Balkh and Herat provinces.



### Renewable Energy Access to Finance Workshop

In line with its mandate of promoting financial inclusion in Afghanistan, AMA in collaboration with Afghanistan Renewable Energy Union (AREU), and Ministry of Energy & Water (MoEW), through support of USAID's FAIDA project and International Finance Corporation of the World Bank, organized a one-day workshop on "Renewable Energy Access to Finance" in Kabul on November 29, 2016.

More than 170 participants attended the workshop including the Minister and Deputy Minister of Energy & Water, Deputy Minister of Rural Rehabilitation & Development, General Director of Plan and Policy of the Ministry of Commerce & Industries, and representatives of IFC-World Bank, USAID/FAIDA, AMA, MFIs, AREU, Insurance and Renewable Energy Companies.

The workshop provided a unique opportunity for Renewable Energy Companies, Financial Institutions, Donors and Private Investors to discuss investment opportunities and establish linkages among different actors in the renewable energy sector in Afghanistan.

Two MoUs were signed between European Technology Company (ETC) and FINCA Afghanistan and ETC and FMFB Afghanistan for further cooperation. Through these MOUs, ETC's identified clients who seek financial assistance to purchase the renewable energy equipment will get loans from FINCA Afghanistan and FMFB Afghanistan. These are pilot projects and will be expanded upon success.



### Women Access to Finance Workshop

To raise awareness of women entrepreneurs about access to finance opportunities, financial institutions' products and services and to establish their linkages with financial institutions, AMA in collaboration with the Ministry of Women Affairs organized a one-day Women Access to Finance Workshop on November 9, 2016 in Kabul. The workshop was supported by USAID's FAIDA project.

The workshop was attended by 92 participants including the Deputy Minister of Women Affairs, Acting Minister of Information & Culture, women entrepreneurs, and representatives from MFIs, Insurance Companies, Mobile Network Operators, AMA, Afghanistan Insurance Personnel Association (AIPA), and USAID/FAIDA.

The panel and round table discussions provided women entrepreneurs with a unique opportunity to exchange viewpoints in identifying challenges and opportunities to explore different financial products available for women entrepreneurs in Afghanistan.



### AMA Management Exposure Visit to AMFA

AMA senior management visited Azerbaijan Microfinance Association (AMFA) in October 2016 with the purpose to learn from AMFA on its core functions, services it provides to its members, new initiatives, best practices, and sustainability plan. AMA organizes such exposure visits with the same purpose for its management and Board of Directors every other year.

Besides AMFA and its Board, AMA visited some of AMFA's members and stakeholders such as; the Central Bank of Azerbaijan, EBRD, Centralized Credit Registry, SBFIC, TBC Credit, and Turan Bank, and few clients, to know more about their relationship and the services they receive from AMFA as well as to learn deeply about microfinance activities and its impact on the poor in Azerbaijan.

This was a productive visit where the AMA senior management returned to the country with great learnings and intention to utilize the learnings in AMA and the sector.



### AMA Partnership with the MIX Market

AMA signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the MIX Market to use its Gold Package for one year, starting from December 2016. Six AMA member MFIs subscribed for this package to receive data and information from the MIX.

As long as these six MFIs continue to report data on quarterly and annual basis to MIX Market, they can enjoy complimentary access to comparable market data and analytical tools. With MIX Intelligence, AMA and MFIs can:

- Make more informed decisions with access to quarterly and annual market data.
- Gain exposure to funders and investors through the industry-leading organization directory.
- Access the library of organization news and files that includes audited financial statements.
- Benchmark the institutions' performance using the Portfolio Analysis tool.
- Conduct analyses using 150+ indicators with the Cross Market Analysis and FSP Analysis tools.

### AMA Donor:



### AMA Collaborators:

