



AfPI

THE AFRICAN
FINANCIAL INCLUSION
POLICY INITIATIVE



WWW.AFI-GLOBAL.ORG

AfPI is the primary platform for AFI's African members to support and develop financial inclusion policy and regulatory frameworks in Africa, and to coordinate regional peer learning efforts.

Since the launch of AMPI in February 2013, the focus areas for the regional initiative have expanded beyond the initial emphasis on mobile phone to include other areas such as consumer protection, financial inclusion strategies, cooperative frameworks for cross-border remittances, digital financial services, Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) access to finance, financial inclusion for women and other vulnerable groups, agricultural firms access to finance, etc.

Accordingly, leaders from AFI member institutions in Africa agreed to broaden the scope of the Initiative from mobile phone financial services to a broader based financial inclusion policy initiative, called African Financial Inclusion Policy Initiative (AfPI).

AfPI brings together high-level representatives from African financial policymaking and regulatory institutions. Stakeholders from private sector entities, telecommunications regulators and international development agencies also participate in the AfPI activities.

By promoting sound and effective financial inclusion policies and establishing a platform for public and private engagement, AfPI aims to enhance the implementation of innovative financial inclusion policies in Africa.



7

AfPI Leaders' Roundtable



6

Capacity building workshops



8

Peer Advisory programs



AfPI Regional Office in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

OBJECTIVES

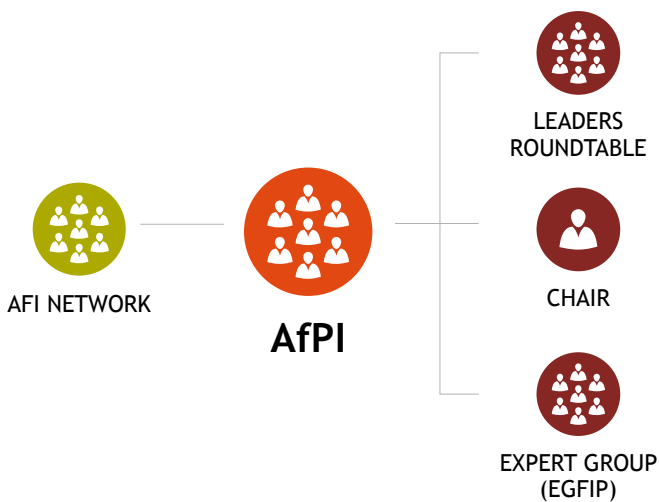
- > Coordinate the formulation of financial inclusion policies that address regional challenges;
- > Harmonize policies and regulatory approaches to deepen financial inclusion in Africa;
- > Facilitate high-level discussions among Leaders to provide strategic guidance to address the financial inclusion challenges of Africa;
- > Enhance in-country implementation of financial inclusion policies in Africa;
- > Share regional financial inclusion lessons with the wider AFI network; and
- > Elevate regional voice on key financial inclusion policy issues from Africa.

GOVERNANCE

AfPI is part of the AFI Network and any AFI member institution in Africa can participate in AfPI activities

AfPI operates under a governance structure consisting of the Leaders' Roundtable, the Chair and the Expert Group.

The Chair serves for a two-year term and is replaced by the Vice-Chair at the end of the term. A new Vice-Chair is then elected.



OPERATIONAL STRUCTURE

AfPI activities are implemented and coordinated through the following mechanism:

AfPI LEADERS' ROUNDTABLE

AfPI Leaders, high-level policymakers and regulators, meet at annual roundtable to discuss policy issues and provide strategic guidance. They also meet on the sidelines of the AFI Global Policy Forum to discuss other urgent matters.

AfPI CHAIR

The Chair provides leadership and guidance to the Expert Group to ensure a smooth and successful implementation of the activities. He or She represents AfPI in its relations with Governments and other entities.

EXPERT GROUP ON FINANCIAL INCLUSION POLICY (EGFIP)

Group of senior officials from AFI member that undertakes the technical implementation of AfPI activities. The Group provides insights on policy and regulatory approaches to help address pertinent regional and sub-regional challenges of enhancing financial inclusion in Africa.

Institutions, members of EGFIP, rotate within each sub-region on three years' period basis.

AFI Management Unit coordinates the organization of the meetings of Leaders' and those of the EGFIP.

MEMBERS EMPOWERMENT

The annual AfPI Leaders Roundtable has become a high-level convening power where high-level officials from AFI member institutions in Africa come together with private sector representatives and other stakeholders to discuss financial inclusion policy issues.

In addition to this high level peer learning, AfPI's regulatory Capacity Building and Peer Advisory Programs are empowering African countries to adopt and implement innovative policy solutions to advance financial inclusion based on tested approaches.

KEY MILESTONES

- > 7 AfPI Leaders' Roundtables
- > 6 capacity building workshops
- > Facilitation of 8 peer advisory programs on in-country implementation of financial inclusion strategy
- > An AFI Regional Office in Africa (based in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire) to strengthen the institutionalization of AfPI and support regional efforts
- > A Framework for Innovative Cross-border Remittances in Africa to address the challenge of uptake and usage of innovative cross border remittances and to enhance efficiency of cross-border remittances in Africa
- > A Framework for DFS Interoperability in Africa to drive usage of financial services through interoperable platforms and schemes and to enhance DFS efficiencies, increase customer convenience and boost scale for both domestic and cross-border payments.
- > The adoption of a "Cooperative Arrangement Framework with Telecommunications Regulators" in the area of digital financial services (DFS)

CURRENT FOCUS AREAS

- > Deepen understanding on policy and regulatory approaches that enhance innovative cross-border remittances in Africa.
- > Reinforce the capacity building efforts for financial regulators to ensure they keep up with the rapidly changing DFS landscape and mitigate the underlying risks.
- > Deepen understanding and learning on approaches for interoperable schemes or models to inform effective policy interventions for interoperability that support financial inclusion.
- > Reinforce the dialogue with private sector players and other related stakeholders through AFI's public-private dialogue in Africa and other forms of cooperation.
- > Promote DFS for agricultural micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and deepen understanding on policy reforms to support agricultural finance.
- > Promote inclusive policies for women, especially leveraging new technologies and promote the adoption of regulations and financial consumer protection frameworks to advance women's economic participation.
- > Facilitate the adoption of policy and regulatory approaches to enhance consumer protection for digital credit and ensure responsible digital credit in Africa.

**PLEASE CONTACT AFI AFRICA
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