# THE AFI APPROACH BRINGING SMART POLICIES TO LIFE

# WHERE ARE THE UNBANKED?

Financial inclusion is a global issue. The world's 2 billion unbanked are found in every region of the globe.

85%

AFI represents more than 85% of the world's unbanked across more than 90 countries.



### **BRINGING SMART POLICIES TO LIFE**

The Alliance for Financial Inclusion (AFI) is the world's leading organization on financial inclusion policy and regulation. A member-owned network, AFI promotes and develops evidence-based policy solutions that help to improve the lives of the poor. Together, AFI members are working to unlock the potential of the world's 2 billion unbanked through the power of financial inclusion.

### AFI MEMBERS ARE FINANCIAL INCLUSION LEADERS

Many of the most effective financial inclusion policies have been innovated, supported and implemented by AFI member institutions, and offer valuable lessons for any country interested in reducing poverty.

AFI members are at the forefront of successful financial system reforms, and have the unique experience to help shape the emerging regulatory response.

# AFI MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS



55+ Maya Declaration



120+ Tangible policy changes



100+ Member Institutions



90+ Member Countries

### AFI'S APPROACH

AFI is a peer-to-peer network that allows members to set their own agendas, harness each other's knowledge and learn from each other. Using data, innovative tools and common principles, AFI provides a platform for members to translate their collective experience into practical knowledge and real solutions for sustainable and scalable financial inclusion.

# PRACTICAL, TESTED AND ADAPTABLE SOLUTIONS

AFI provides a variety of platforms for members to build their capacity, share their experiences and learn from the diverse policy solutions of its global network of regulators and policymakers.

#### A DIVERSE COMMUNITY OF EXPERTS

As a network of regulators and policymakers working on similar issues and facing similar challenges, AFI is a valuable source of peer connections, innovative ideas and regulatory guidance. Tapping into the vast experience of professional financial inclusion experts gives members reliable and relevant feedback and continuous support and advice.

#### **GLOBAL POLICY LEADERSHIP**

AFI members develop and promote best practices in global and financial inclusion. AFI raises the profile of smart financial inclusion policy through

its association with the G20, G24 and global Standard-Setting Bodies (SSBs), and through partnerships with the World Bank, CGAP, the United Nations and others.

#### NATIONAL POLICY IMPACT

AFI's Maya Declaration supports members in making specific and measurable national commitments to financial inclusion based on their own unique needs and challenges. Making public commitments pushes members to reflect on their objectives and then focus, refine and prioritize their efforts.

## **HOW AFI SERVES ITS MEMBERS**

AFI offers its members unrivaled strategic and practical support throughout the policymaking and implementation process.

#### **IMPACT**

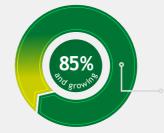
AFI services empower member institutions to deliver effective policy reform through:

- Monitoring & Evaluation: This service helps AFI members to measure, track and showcase progress toward their Maya Commitments and other benchmarks.
- Knowledge Products: AFI analyzes policy approaches and publishes insights through case studies, guideline notes, and special reports.

# INCLUSIVE GROWTH BEGINS WITH FINANCIAL INCLUSION



An estimated 2 billion people, almost half the world's adult population, do not have access to formal financial services.



AFI represents more than 85% of the world's unbanked

Financial inclusion is a key tool for poverty alleviation - it integrates people in the formal economy and leads to higher per capita national income and lower levels of inequality.

#### **GLOBAL ADVOCACY**

AFI represents a unique and valuable voice in global policy advocacy. Current initiatives include:

- S G20 Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (GPFI): As a G20 GPFI implementing partner, AFI gives global visibility to its members' achievements.
- Standard-Setting Bodies (SSBs) Initiative: Peer learning among AFI members demonstrates how global standards can be implemented in a manner proportionate to risk while promoting financial inclusion.
- Slobal Policy Forum (GPF): AFI's annual flagship event brings its members and key partners together to exchange ideas and discuss collaborative approaches to advancing the global financial inclusion agenda.

#### **COMMITMENT**

> Maya Declaration: AFI helps its members to institutionalize their strategy through concrete, measurable and meaningful goals at the national level. The Maya Declaration represents the first set of global commitments made by policymakers to empower the unbanked through financial inclusion.

#### PEER LEARNING & ACTION

AFI recognizes that the most effective policies are informed by diverse experience and continuous revisions.

- Knowledge Exchange: Knowledge Exchanges allow AFI members to learn from the policymaking experiences of others through invaluable, on-the-ground study tours.
- Capacity Building: Training and workshops equip members with the know-how to implement innovative policies effectively.
- Working Groups: A forum for leading AFI members to share policy knowledge and develop regulatory guidance.
- New Initiatives: Initiatives are created in response to regional and topical financial inclusion trends that members determine would benefit from a more specialized focus.
- Public-Private Dialogue: This platform creates solutions for policymakers and the private sector in expanding financial services to the unbanked.
- Online Member Zone: An exclusive online platform designed for AFI members to connect and exchange ideas.

## FINANCIAL INCLUSION IS A SMART INVESTMENT



Reduces financial transactionn costs at the household level, which can contribute to greater investment in family health and education.



Stimulates the growth of small and medium enterprises, which accounts for 90% of job creation.



Increases financial sector integrity and economic stability.



Promotes greater social stability, reducing the poor's vulnerability to personal and largescale catastrophes.