FOMIN

A Member of the IDB Group

Promoting Partnerships Through Learning Communities

> OBRA Launch – Kingston , Jamaica April 13, 2010



MULTILATERAL INVESTMENT FUND

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Outline

1. Context

- 2. FOMIN Learning Communities
- **3. Lessons Learned**



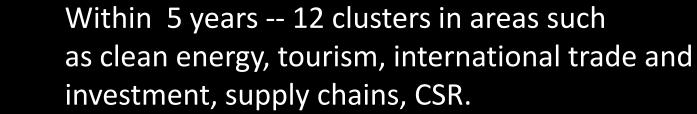
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Context

1 – FOMIN Clusters



2002 - Working Group on MIF Strategy recommended establishing clusters i.e. projects in a given theme identified together, developed & evaluated in the same time-frame.



Regular Cluster meetings to promote knowledgesharing, lessons learned

Context

2 – FOMIN Networks



2004 - Partners in Innovation Program
 Established 5 networks in key areas of FOMIN's impact – Microfinance, VC, Quality Mgmt.
 Standards, ADR, Skills Standards and Certification.

 Lead Institutions, FOMIN funding for network

activities.

Goal – promote knowledge-sharing, innovation - source for new innovative project ideas, products.

Context

– K2Practice KM Strategy



2007 - FOMIN decided to mainstream KM in all its activities.

4 aspects to K2Practice -

-A knowledge repository
-Lessons for replication from key thematic areas
-Establishment of Learning Communities
-Staff Training re: mainstreaming KM into their activities

FOMIN Learning Communities. A Snapshot

- What's a Learning Community?
- A group of people with a common interest, that by working in a collaborative manner, learn from each other and create innovative ideas and approaches, in order to improve the impact and quality of their work and its development effectiveness
- FOMIN Learning Communities
- Highly Interactive Platforms Bringing Together:
 - ✓ FOMIN Current & Past Executing Agencies
 - ✓ FOMIN/IDB Specialists
 - ✓ External thematic experts

FOMIN Connects these Actors to

- ✓ Foster knowledge capturing & sharing -What worked? What didn't? How to improve project execution and impact?
- ✓ Facilitate access to experts, local & global knowledge
- ✓ Strengthen FOMIN EA's Capacities, identifying and meeting their needs
- ✓ Foster synergy & collaboration both at the project and topic level

FOMIN Learning Communities. How do they work?

- One Community Two Means to Capture & Share Knowledge
- Virtual activities -through the open source platform "Joomla", developed & customized in house in 2007
- Forums -Thematic forums moderated by experts. How others did it and how can I learn from them?
- Knowledge Products Repository -Admin toolkits, technical documents, lessons learned, multimedia, meetings presentations. Etc
- Webinars -Real time conferences with experts. Projects experiences sharing sessions. Training series for FOMIN EA core teams
- ✓ **Consultants Database** "Marketplace" to recommend & share consultants profiles
- ✓ Who's who -Members profiles & info about their organizations and projects
- ✓ News and Events -Related to the projects as well as to the industry
- ✓ 2,500 3,000 visits per month

FOMIN Learning Communities. How do they work?

• One Community - Two Means to Capture & Share Knowledge

Face to face Activities

- ✓ Bimonthly "Breakfasts with peers & experts" (Uruguay)
- ✓ Best Practices & Lessons Learned Competition (Argentina)
- ✓ Monthly Training Sessions (Paraguay)
- ✓ Knowledge Fair (Bolivia)
- Each Community has its own agenda and a coordination team
- ✓ FOMIN Specialist (Cluster Coordinator/Country Specialist)
- ✓ IKM Assignee
- ✓ 3 4 Project Coordinators -volunteer basis
- ✓ Moderator
- Annual Evaluation on LC performances & needs through surveys, face to face meetings

FOMIN Learning Communities. How do they work?

Examples of Most Successful Communities

- ICT4Business -113 members
- Sustainable Tourism -102 members
- Dynamic Entrepreneurship 92
- Local economic Development 131
- Trinidad and Tobago 41 members
- Uruguay 87 members





LESSONS LEARNED FROM LC EXPERIENCE

- "Demand driven"
- Effective communication strategy
- Identify group needs work plan
- Stakeholders agreement needed (MIF Specialists)
- Critical mass of active participants
- Facilitator to stimulate interaction



LESSONS LEARNED FROM LC EXPERIENCE

- Identification of common themes so that collaboration can take place between Communities
- Identification of "A" players
- "Customization" versus "cookie-cutter" approach
- System of incentives for pioneers

 professional recognition/inclusion
 in MIF KM programs
- Financial support



The Multilateral Investment Fund Promoting inclusive growth through private sector development

Trinidad and Tobago

A LEARNING COMMUNITY

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Who's online? • Winsome Leslie



Subesh Ramjattan of Bridge of Hope makes a presentation on the importance of Partnerships for Youth Development.



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There are not upcoming events



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