

Photos Taken at Project Sites



Guinea-Bissau



Mozambique



Jamaica



Azerbaijan

DevPar is a Canadian limited liability company registered under the Canada Business Corporations Act.

Founded in 1992 by experienced consultants seeking to provide services to developing countries through a sharing of experience in financial management. An emphasis in initial work was the establishment and modernization of financial and capital markets.

Development: The focus is improvement of the general welfare of people living in emerging, transitional, and developing countries.

Partnerships: The approach is through recognition that the participation of the most appropriate teams on projects will achieve the best sustainable results for beneficiaries.

We maintain relations with a variety of national consulting firms in developing countries with for collaboration on the conduct of projects.



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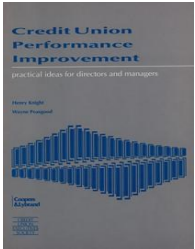
Microfinance and Financial Cooperative Consulting Services



“Bringing together experienced partners to provide skills, expertise and technology to the conduct of projects in developing countries”

Capacity Building

The work performed by Henry Knight in Canada led to the publication of a practical book to guide Directors and Managers of credit unions to assist them to carry out a thorough diagnostic of their operations and to identify opportunities for improvement.



This book was published by the Credit Union Executives Society, an organisation dedicated to the education and development of credit union Chief Executive Officers,

directors, and leaders. This is an example of the firm's commitment to capacity building and to contributing to its institutionalization and sustainability.

DevPar has led conferences, published papers, and worked with representatives of a wide range of financial cooperatives and MFIs to build internal capacity. This work has covered a range of institution types and projects. Capacity building consists of a combination of clear structures, responsibility assignments, supportive training and coaching, useful manuals and training materials, and effective management and supervision. DevPar prides itself on being able to strengthen organizations that can make an impact on poverty alleviation and to offer inclusive financial services.

Building Stronger Institutions

Building stronger institutions to address the financial needs of poorer citizens can take place at two levels. The first is at the level of the smaller institution where basic skills and organization arrangements must be put in place. Governance, risk management, strategy, staffing, and operations are all at embryonic or early stages of development; the goal can be to establish basic standards that will allow the institution to grow and succeed. This is the stage where weaknesses must be overcome and bad habits avoided. When an institution is successful and growing rapidly, it can begin to face new challenges as it outstrips its initial funding. It must seek new sources. At this level of operations it may need to address the gathering of savings, borrowing from other sources, and increasing capital. Assistance is needed to guide the institution through the changes that will enable it to tap new sources of funds and to meet stricter regulatory and supervisory standards.

At a second stage, DevPar can provide both the technical guidance and the expert support needed to make the transformation successful and effectively prepared to operate at a new level of professionalism. Further, we have worked to introduce new products to respond to market needs. Again, the support will require a capacity-building and coaching program that will meet the required standards and best practices.

DevPar has also worked to strengthen market supervision and regulations for the microfinance industry.

Building The Facilitating Framework

A facilitating framework in any country will consist of a number of supportive provisions that encourage microfinance to develop.

We have worked to establish government policy that will support the offering of financial services on an inclusive basis, which will clear away roadblocks and impediments for many. Much of this work has been performed against the background of initiatives led by the World Bank and other international development institutions and donor agencies. We have amended Laws and introduced specific terms and conditions for establishing and operating a microfinance type institution. We have also provided training and support for market supervisors and government representatives.

The policy issue in some cases has led to a broader desire to ensure financial inclusion for all citizens, even those in very reduced economic circumstances. DevPar's clients have included:

- Microfinance organizations
- Financial cooperatives
- Credit Unions
- Savings and Loan associations

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