

2013 Partnerships against Poverty Summit Declaration

Manila, 11 October 2013: We, the participants of the Partnerships against Poverty Summit, state collectively and enthusiastically, that:

EXTREME POVERTY CAN AND WILL BE ENDED BY THE YEAR 2030!

To reach this goal, we declare the following four commitments:

First, we commit to putting the poor first!

The voices of the poor and extreme poor must be heard in our movement, and they must be full participants in the process of improving their lives and our services. They are not only our clients, but also our biggest resource.

To better reach and serve the poorest and most vulnerable populations, we will work to include women, children, elderly, refugees, and persons excluded because of disabilities, sexual orientation, culture, or religion.

We recognize that serving the poor and extreme poor is not always conducive to developing sustainable organizations. We honor, respect, and support those organizations, both for-profit and not-for-profit, that actively choose to let go of full sustainability to focus all or part of their services on the specific needs of the poor and extreme poor.

We also celebrate microfinance institutions that are fully sustainable. For such organizations, we commit to supporting and facilitating their expanded outreach to greater numbers of the poorest and most vulnerable families.

Second, we commit to strengthening our services to the poor through strategic partnerships that offer new services and products.

Poverty will not be ended by a single organization offering a new service or product. Rather, poverty will be ended by thousands of organizations working in partnerships that offer multiple new services and products needed by the poor.

The poor need financial services that go beyond loans -- including savings, insurance, and cash transfers. They also need services and products in such areas as food security, health, education, water, sanitation, green energy, telecommunications, identity certification, and disaster relief.

To provide comprehensive services and products for the poor, we commit to actively engaging in partnerships with a wide array of stakeholders, including governmental and non-governmental organizations, religious communities, and foundations. We will also partner with private for-profit and not-for-profit businesses, banks, insurance companies, and other types of financial service companies.

By partnering with a variety of stakeholders, we will leverage the on-the-ground capacity of microfinance institutions to accelerate the delivery of the wide range of services and products that the poor need.

Third, to better provide services and products for the poor, we commit to strengthening the openness of our organizations and institutions.

To strengthen the openness of our organizations and institutions, we commit to actively promoting and implementing management practices that ensure openness, accountability, transparency, inclusiveness, and fairness in all operations. We must also transform the way we view new and innovative strategies and technologies. As a movement, we commit to openly sharing ideas and methods between partners and colleagues, including advances in technology and organizational best practices, to enhance and accelerate our movement's capacity to serve the poor. This especially applies to improving the accuracy of our information systems for identifying the poorest and measuring their progress. We vow to involve youth in these efforts, as they hold the key to huge breakthroughs in innovation, technology, and public awareness.

Fourth, we commit to developing an environment where the movement to end poverty will thrive and become widely recognized so that the vision of a world free of poverty will be achieved by 2030!

We will actively lobby our governments to improve the regulatory and legal environment needed for the effective implementation of financial and social support services for the poor and extreme poor.

We will intensify our efforts by organizing mass media campaigns to provide a voice and a face to extreme poverty, and by generating public support around its eradication by 2030. We will organize world summits, special forums, and mass citizen events to accelerate the movement to end poverty.

This is our vision: a world of partnerships we create together; a world with no child mortality; a world where all school-aged children can read and write; a world where every family has access to healthcare, housing, and working capital; a world in 2030 that is free of extreme poverty!

THIS IS A VISION WE CAN AND WILL ACHIEVE!

The original version of this Declaration was adopted by the Delegates at the 2013 Microcredit Summit: Partnerships against Poverty, held October 9-11, 2013 in Manila, Philippines.