

Nepal Field Study: Leadership Development in Global Microfinance & Sustainable Enterprises

May 12-22, 2009



Faculty Leaders

Dr. Dharm Bhawuk, Professor, UH Shidler College of Business
Dr. F. Gerard Adams, Prof. Emeritus, University of Pennsylvania
Dr. Jane H. Ives, Thunderbird School of Global Management

Overview



This 10-day field trip to Nepal is intended to provide a broad overview of the myriad issues that face microfinance initiatives in

today's global marketplace. The trip will expose students to traditional and local village microfinance lending institutions, loan recipients and programs. There will be visits to NGOs, international organizations, village banks and relevant credit and village microfinance program recipients (loans are typically not more than \$100). The group will engage in conversations with villagers in Kathmandu and in some of the indigenous villages of Nepal, meet local social entrepreneurs and observe at local microfinance learning centers.

Objectives

- Understand the roles of domestic, national and global public and private organizations in economic development;
- Learn about economic growth and self-sufficiency in impoverished areas of the world, and the role of rural women entrepreneurs;
- Understand the principles of microfinance and rural village marketing and their applications;

- Learn the unique aspects and implementation of developing a business and marketing products at the rural village level; and
- Acquire a comprehensive view of the connection between local conditions and the international arena.

Curriculum Topics

1. Nepal country analysis: How microfinance initiatives provide financial opportunities for the underserved; Grameen Bank and Foundation, Citibank, etc. cases.
2. Sustainable institutions and mechanisms for delivery of financial services.
3. Evaluation and analysis of global microfinance partners, banks, NGOs, and other financial institutions.
4. Revenue models of microfinance and overview of business planning in microfinance.
5. Web-based resources and publications in microfinance.

Academic Credits

This is a **non-credit** academic program. If interested in obtaining 3 credits, students have to arrange for Directed Study with Prof. Bhawuk and pay UH tuition.

Cost: \$2000 (Inclusive of accommodations, trip insurance, meals and local transportation in Nepal). Visa fee and travel to/from Nepal on your own. Ten or more students will lower the per person cost to \$1500. **Scholarships available.**

Participants: Maximum of 25; trip may be cancelled due to insufficient participants.

Career Considerations:

Students who are considering careers in global finance and/or international development may find this field trip useful. Microfinance alumni and employers will make presentations and will be available for one-on-one consultations.

Some Internships available after the program.

Tentative Itinerary

May 12, Tuesday: Arrive in Kathmandu – Airport welcome; transfer to Kathmandu Guest House; welcome dinner. Evening discussions – Asian political, economic, microfinance and social environment.

May 13, Wednesday: Seminars – Impact of economic recession on Nepal and South Asia; diversity and history in Nepal; women's literacy and savings-led microfinance program; meetings/lectures with The Education Curriculum Training Associates (ECTA).

May 14, Thursday: Coach transfer to Chitwan – Field visits, lectures and meetings at village banks and microfinance institutions. On to National Park (wildlife preserve) and hotel. Discussion - Nepal in the context of South and Southeast Asian development.

May 15, Friday: Visit to Women's Empowerment Program – Meetings with participants, program leaders and entrepreneurs. Seminar – Microfinance and entrepreneurial initiatives in South Asia.



May 16, Saturday: Back to Kathmandu - Visit Durbar Square, markets and other UNESCO World Heritage sites.

May 17, Sunday: Bhaktapur municipality, Swayambunath, and other major historical locations.

May 18, Monday: Field Visits, meetings and lectures – NGO's, village banks, microfinance institutions and local entrepreneurs. Seminars - Microfinance initiatives, Grameen organizations, traditional and village banking.

May 19, Tuesday: Meetings and lectures – Nepal Rural Development Organization, Neighborhood Society Service Center, Women Cooperative Society, Ltd, and the Women's Empowerment Village Savings Banks.

May 20, Wednesday: Meetings and lectures – Thru and Raze Women Society, Jesuit Mobile Medical Clinic, Center for Self- Help Development, SAV (a volunteer organization).

May 21, Thursday: Meetings and lectures – Grameen Projects, Nirdhan NGO (meeting will focus on the work of credit-led microfinance projects and the work of savings-led programs).

May 22, Friday: Recap meeting; final instructions re assignments; transfer to airport for departure.

Schedule:

March 31, 2009 – Deadline for submission of applications (with \$200 deposit)

April 10, 2009 – Announcement of admission to program

April 20, 2009 – Program fee balance due

May 1, 2009 – Pre-departure reading list, assignments, expectations, instructions, etc.

Information/Application:

PAMI/CIBER Office

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Join us!!!

