

Incofin successfully finalizes RIF II Technical Assistance Facility, promoting innovation in financial inclusion for 7,4 million entrepreneurs worldwide

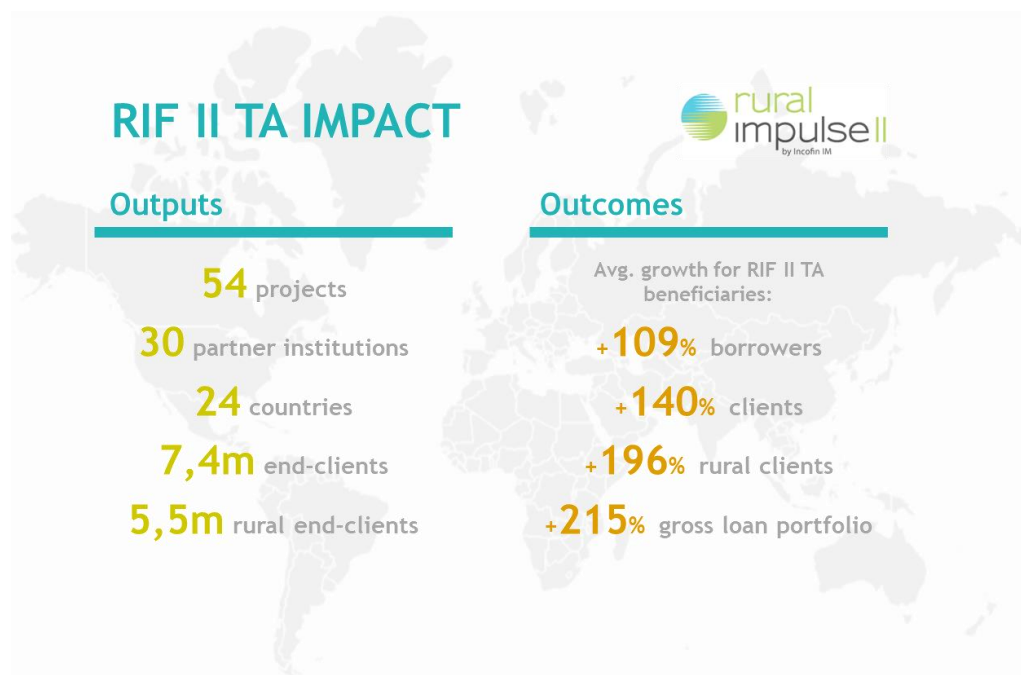
[TAGS: Technical Assistance, TA, Social Impact, Capital Plus]

Incofin has successfully finalized its Rural Impulse Fund II (RIF II) Technical Assistance Facility which, over 8 years of implementation, financed capacity building projects to promote innovation in rural microfinance and deepen financial inclusion of traditionally underserved communities.

The 5 million USD Facility had broad-ranging impacts, both geographically and in terms of thematic areas. The Facility financed 54 projects in 24 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe on a diverse array of topics ranging from new product development and digital delivery channels to risk and social performance management. Additionally, the Facility organized 3 knowledge-sharing events that brought together financial inclusion players from around the globe to exchange best practices in agricultural lending, risk management and insurance.

Under the Facility, projects were designed to help partner institutions address and overcome challenges typically associated with financing the rural and agricultural sectors, such as high operating costs that can limit scalability. For example, in Pakistan, Incofin designed a comprehensive TA program to help Khushhali Microfinance Bank transform from a mono-line business model with a single group lending product into a dynamic, broad service Microfinance Bank serving micro- and small business owners across the country, more than doubling their rural client outreach. In Bolivia, Incofin supported Sembrar Sartawi to develop a [customized mobile app](#) that streamlines client data collection, allowing the company to reach remote rural communities more efficiently.

The graphic below summarizes key achievements of the RIF II TA Facility since 2012.



In an impressive collaboration between a host of international donors, each committed to promoting rural financial inclusion, the Facility was supported by Agence Française de Développement (AFD), the Belgian Investment Company for Developing Countries (BIO), the European Investment Bank (EIB), Nederlandse Financierings-Maatschappij voor Ontwikkelingslanden (FMO), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Luxembourg Government, Nordic Microfinance Initiative (NMI) and the RIF II Fund.

Karel Jansen, Chair of the RIF II Technical Assistance Committee, notes, “[At its launch, the RIF II TA Facility was unique to the microfinance industry and, over 8 years, financed a great variety of projects in many countries east to west. The Facility’s excellent results demonstrate TA’s capacity to generate concrete impact for partner institutions and their end-clients.](#)”

Incofin is building on the success of the RIF II Facility to launch new, innovative TA programs, such as the [agRIF TA Facility](#), that will continue to support smallholder farmers and rural entrepreneurs to grow their businesses and improve their quality of life.



(Annapurna, India)



(Tajikistan)