

# ENTEPRISE IN ACTION

Spring, 2006

Newsletter of



[www.socialenterprise.net](http://www.socialenterprise.net)

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to **Social Enterprise Associates'** newsletter, **Enterprise in Action**. We have new news in Research and Partnerships.

**RESEARCH** All research material is available for FREE from [www.socialenterprise.net/resources.html](http://www.socialenterprise.net/resources.html)

- Emerging Topics Paper Series #6 [Microfinance as a Tool for Sustainable Urban Poverty Alleviation](#). This working paper explores measuring microfinance's impact as a sustainable development tool for urban poverty alleviation and an action research presentation of how donors and other stakeholders can most effectively engage in this sector.
- [Draft Research Brief, Recipe for Success](#): Although a draft, the research brief presents interesting data and the thesis to compare High-Growth Microfinance Institutions historical to consider what successful growth looks like.
- Contribution to webpage and research on: Addressing Foreign Currency Issues for Investment in Microfinance Institutions for Grameen Foundation USA. [www.gfusa.org/programs/capital\\_markets/foreign\\_currency\\_issues/](http://www.gfusa.org/programs/capital_markets/foreign_currency_issues/).

We are seeking the next Emerging Topics Paper. Submission guidelines are online at [www.socialenterprise.net/resources.html](http://www.socialenterprise.net/resources.html), or contact [info@socialenterprise.net](mailto:info@socialenterprise.net).

## **PARTNERSHIP**

We are delighted to announce a new partnership with ECDC's Enterprise Development Group, (EDG, [www.enterprisedevelopmentgroup.org](http://www.enterprisedevelopmentgroup.org)). Drew Tulchin is serving full-time as Director to this non-profit that provides financial services to poor people and launches social enterprise ventures in the Washington DC Greater Metro Area. EDG offers micro-loans, savings (IDAs), financial education, small business assistance, a business incubator, and a computer lab to unbanked people, particularly immigrants and new comers here legally in America. More than 1 in 5 people in the US lack banking financial services due to poor credit, no credit, or lack of knowledge about financial systems.

Since 1992, EDG has served more than 4,000 people, made 500 micro-loans worth \$7.8 million, and enabled 728 people earning minimum wage to save nearly \$1 million which had led to the purchase of assets like homes, cars, and educational training worth more than \$16 million. Nearly 90% of clients have been people of color; 40% women. It has particular expertise serving African immigrants through the parent organization, ECDC.

Social Enterprise Associates will bring its expertise to grow EDG into a sustainable, lasting entity. Social Enterprise Associates will continue its research and consulting. Internships will be offered through EDG. This is a highly synchronous partnership enhancing both entities tremendously.

**Social Enterprise Associates** is a US for-profit consulting company applying business principles to achieve community good. We value affordable, results-oriented client services. We are always interested in updates from our colleagues and community stakeholders. **We are currently seeking the next addition for our Emerging Topics Paper Series**; if interested, email us at [info@socialenterprise.net](mailto:info@socialenterprise.net).

Thanks to continued professional contributions from Social Enterprise Associates researchers: Glen Fernandes & Jerry Grossman

Regards,  
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