



WORLDWISE
MICROFINANCE

FORMERLY
WISCONSIN
MICROFINANCE



PREPARED BY
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2024

PROGRESS OUT
OF POVERTY

ANNUAL REPORT



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HOW WE WORK

Our programs are based on the microfinance model developed by Muhammad Yunus through the Grameen Bank. The Grameen Bank was founded on the belief that the very poor have unlimited potential, and unleashing their creativity and initiative can help end poverty.



MISSION

To provide access to capital, at a reasonable rate, to individuals, primarily women, who aspire to lift their families out of poverty by starting and running a small business.

VISION

We envision a world in which the rural poor hold the power to create opportunity for themselves and others.

VALUES

EMPOWERMENT

Financial Security • Personal Autonomy • Personal Growth

COOPERATION

Resourceful • Connected

INTEGRITY

Trustworthy • Honest • Truthful • Just • Fair

RESPONSIBILITY

Dependable • Respectful

COMPASSION

Hopeful • Optimistic • Kind • Patient • Humble

WHO WE SERVE

- **100%** of loan recipients live below the poverty line
- **100%** of our loan recipients have never taken a loan before
- **100%** of our female loan recipients reported prior challenges in accessing funds
- We work with local partners in **Haiti, the Dominican Republic, the Philippines, Ghana** and **Kenya**
- **88%** of loans go to women

ABOUT WORLDWISE MICROFINANCE

FOUNDER'S LETTER



Celebrating 15 Years!

When my students at UW Madison raised \$3,000 for survivors of the Haitian Earthquake in early 2010, I could not have imagined that microfinance would become such a passion for me, as well as others.. Yet, here we are, **15 years** later, not only continuing our presence in Haiti, but also developing programs in the Philippines, the Dominican Republic, Ghana, and Kenya.

WorldWise Microfinance

As part of our 15th anniversary, we're excited to **announce our name change to WorldWise Microfinance**. This name change clarifies our scope, since we don't actually make loans in Wisconsin. It also recognizes our vision for the worldwide impact we have made, continue to make, and intend to deliver in the future. Our new logo reflects and updates our old one, while also drawing attention to the wisdom inherent in microfinance.

Empowering women entrepreneurs remains our top priority

Motivated by a dream of running their own business, our loan recipients have successfully started and grown businesses that have **lifted their families out of poverty**. By attacking poverty at the individual family level, we create sustainable, replicable, long-term change.

We know that this work would not be possible without your generous support and loyalty. "No matter your contribution level, you are part of WorldWise Microfinance's mission, and for that, we thank you. We also look forward to your continued partnership as we seek to support aspiring small business owners across the globe.

With so much appreciation,

Tom Eggert

Founder and President of the Board

UPDATES AND HIGHLIGHTS

CHANGING OUR NAME TO REFLECT OUR IMPACT



After 15 years, we are changing our name to WorldWise Microfinance **to better reflect the work that we do.** As part of a larger effort to both grow the organization and extend our impact, our new name signals that **our reach is global** and that **microfinance is one of the best ways to help lift people** living in poverty.

NEW PROGRAMS IN AFRICA | GHANA & KENYA

In 2024, we made a leap by opening our first programs on the African continent. We are so excited to be **working with partners in Ghana and Kenya** who are as committed as we are to helping those living in poverty. We piloted programs in both countries, and both quickly proved their capability at becoming full programs.



STAFF UPDATE | DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

In addition to changing our name, we also transitioned from an all-volunteer organization to one that employs professional staff. Formalizing roles and responsibilities (and paying people to do those jobs) is consistent with our goal of **creating a lasting, effective, and sustainable organization** – one that continues our mission far into the future. Please join us in welcoming **Tom Boyd** as our new Director of Development..



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

In 2015, the United Nations identified 17 interconnected goals that would **lead to an improved and sustainable world by 2030**. These Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by all UN member states as part of the 2030 Agenda. As such, they serve as international criteria against which we can judge the work of WorldWise Microfinance.



NO POVERTY

We ensure access to funding and our loans enable expanded property ownership and access to education.



DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Our programs enable decent work by supporting business creators.



GENDER EQUALITY

80% of all WorldWise Microfinance loans go to women, furthering the goal of gender equality.



REDUCE INEQUALITIES

WorldWise Microfinance bridges economic divides by combatting financial exclusion, while igniting a cycle of prosperity that transforms communities.

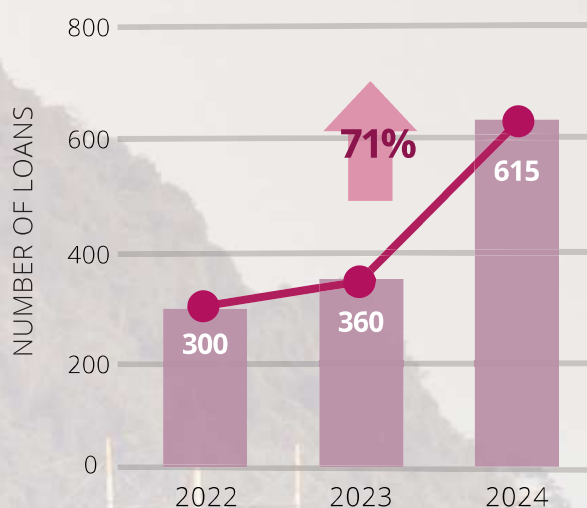
FINANCIAL HEALTH

For the fourteenth consecutive year, WorldWise Microfinance increased our support for entrepreneurs in the developing world. We continued to grow our programs by identifying and collaborating with responsible and reliable partners. We opened new programs in Ghana and Kenya and expect both programs to expand in 2025.

Despite challenges in each of the countries, **we distributed a record 615 loans in 2024.** This represents a 71% increase in the number of loans. At the same time, our average loan size has increased. Strong oversight and effective monitoring of the loan portfolios are keys to the long-term success and sustainability of our programs.

YEARLY LOAN ANALYSIS

2022-2024



DONATIONS
INCREASED
33%
FROM 2023
TO 2024

ANNUAL PROGRAM SUPPORT

Through the years, we have grown both the overall number of donors, as well as the number of monthly donors. The upward trend in donors serves as a testament to the collective commitment towards WorldWise Microfinance and highlights the **transformative power of individual contributions.**

Our donors are the lifeblood of our organization.



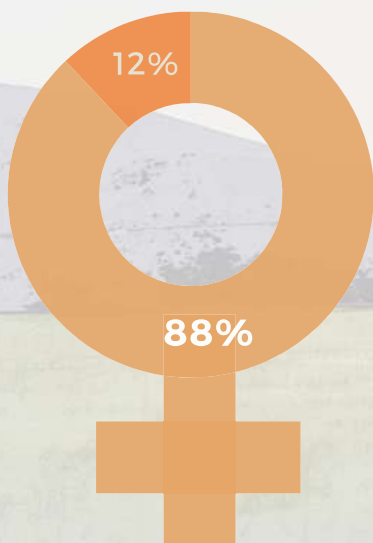
IMPACT AT A GLANCE

ABILITY TO BUY HOMEOWNERSHIP



1 IN 4 LOAN RECIPIENTS WHO
DID NOT ALREADY OWN THEIR
HOME WERE ABLE TO BUY A HOME

MEN



WOMEN
COMPRISE 88%
OF OUR LOAN
RECIPIENTS

REDUCTION IN ILLNESS FREQUENCY

47% OF LOAN
RECIPIENTS REPORTED
A REDUCTION IN THE
NUMBER OF
ILL FAMILY MEMBERS



**WHEN
WOMEN THRIVE,
COMMUNITIES THRIVE**

Before every loan is made, a loan recipient is asked to **fill out a *Progress Out of Poverty* survey**. Most loan recipients take out a second and third loan, and they fill out the survey before each. Thus, we have **a way of measuring change over time** with individual loan recipients.

PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN AGES 6-15 ATTENDING SCHOOL



INCREASE IN SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

EATING MORE

ON AVERAGE, **51%** OF FAMILIES ATE AT LEAST **1 MORE MEAL PER DAY...**



AND ALSO

WERE ABLE TO EAT MEAT MORE OFTEN



SAVINGS



69% WERE ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO A SAVINGS ACCOUNT



DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Fundación Centro Cultural
Guanín (Fundación Guanín)
Partnership Est. 2020



IN 2024...

238 LOANS
DISTRIBUTED

82%
OF LOAN
RECIPIENTS
WERE
WOMEN

FOR A
CUMULATIVE
LOAN VALUE

\$70,000

100% OF LOANS
REPAID

IN 2024...

255 LOANS
DISTRIBUTED

88%
OF LOAN
RECIPIENTS
WERE
WOMEN

FOR A
CUMULATIVE
LOAN VALUE

\$30,000

100% OF LOANS
REPAID



PANDEVCO and UPDC
Partnerships Est. 2015

PHILIPPINES

GHANA

Apagyahene of Asebu
Traditional Area
Partnership Est. 2024



IN 2024...

76 LOANS
DISTRIBUTED

100%
OF LOAN
RECIPIENTS
WERE
WOMEN

FOR A
CUMULATIVE
LOAN VALUE
\$11,350

100% OF LOANS
REPAID

IN 2024...

46 LOANS
DISTRIBUTED

100%
OF LOAN
RECIPIENTS
WERE
WOMEN

FOR A
CUMULATIVE
LOAN VALUE
\$5,700

100% OF LOANS
REPAID



Tenakata
Partnership Est. 2024

KENYA

HAITI

In 2021, the President of Haiti was assassinated, plunging the **nation into chaos**. Initially, our partner, an agricultural cooperative, was minimally impacted by the chaos. By mid-2023 the head of the cooperative, Guy Louis was forced to flee the country for his safety.

Since then, Guy received sporadic reports about the loan program. In 2024, those reports stopped, and we have **no current program data**. While **we remain optimistic that a loan program continues** to function, we are no longer providing additional money to Haiti.



PAKISTAN



Our partner, Unity in Hope, piloted a loan program in Islamabad in 2023, and 18 loans were made. All loans went to women and were fully repaid. We mutually agreed to **end the program** in 2024, with all money recovered by Wisconsin Microfinance.

A few of our **lessons learned from this pilot** include:

- **Communicate partner time commitments clearly:** Staff on the ground must have the time and ability to manage the loan program.
- **Identify alternative funding sources early:** A requirement of our programs is that after 4 loans, recipients must have access to an alternative funding source for future loans. Despite repeated attempts to identify an alternative source, none were identified in Islamabad.

OUR PROGRAM PARTNERS



SEBIE KENYA

TENAKATA, NAIROBI

Sebie Salim founded and runs Tenakata,, a financial inclusion venture and has been a partners since 2024.

THE PHILIPPINES **GINA**

URBAN PEOPLE'S DEVELOPMENT COOPERATIVE, ILOILO CITY

Ma. Gina Celestino heads up the Urban People's Development Cooperative (UPDC for short), and has been a partners since 2023.



MARGIE THE PHILIPPINES

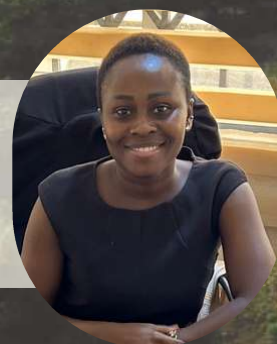
PANDEVCO COOPERATIVE, ILOILO CITY

Margie Gallo Andre-e heads up the Panay Negros Development Workers Cooperative (PANDEVCO for short), and has been a partner since 2022.

GHANA **SARAH**

CITY OF MOREE

Sarah Dadzie, and her husband Nana Obokese Ampah, the Regent of Moree, have been our partners since 2024.



SEV DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

FUNDACION GUANIN, LA PIEDRA

Elias Severino Hernández is the Founder and CEO of Fundacion Guanin, a private foundation registered in both the US and the Dominican Republic. He has been a partner since 2020.



BORROWER SPOTLIGHTS

ANTONIETA CASTILLON



PHILIPPINES | 49 | STORE OWNER & COCONUT OIL PRODUCER

Antonieta first received a loan through WorldWide Microfinance's program in 2014, after an electrical fire broke out in an adjacent store. All of her inventory burned along with her store. The loans she received were crucial to the reopening of her store. Antonieta looks forward to diversifying the products she sells in the future, after her son completes his schooling.



FE RUIZOL

PHILIPPINES | 44 | BEAUTY SALON OWNER

Fe, a widow with three sons, has been a hairstylist for over ten years. As soon as she had enough money saved, she put herself through cosmetology school. Since her husband, the father of her children, tragically passed away a number of years ago, she has remained the sole source of income for her family. The loans from the project have been an essential part of her ability to provide for her family. Fe feels the loans have helped to make her business a stable source of income for her and her son.



CALL TO ACTION

JOIN US IN EMPOWERING LIVES

This annual report demonstrates the **importance of empowering the global poor** who lack access to affordable finance. WorldWise Microfinance's loans are powerful levers that enable individuals to transform their family's income and wealth. These findings have **larger implications for ensuring access and equity** in financing at the global level, for recognizing and empowering women, and for building and sustaining communities and talent pools. WorldWise Microfinance is just one actor in a broader family of microfinance institutions, both for-profit and non-profit.

GET INVOLVED

DONATION

Every donation, no matter how small, makes a difference!

VOLUNTEER

Email us to join our team of dedicated volunteers!

SPREAD THE WORD

Share our mission with your friends and family!

PARTNER WITH US

Explore partnership opportunities and collaborate with us!

SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER

“WORLDWISE MICROFINANCE DOES WHAT FEW OTHER ORGANIZATIONS DO; IT CHANGES THE FUTURE FOR LOAN RECIPIENTS”

—RHYOMI VERSTEGEN
RECURRING DONOR

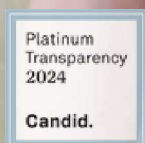


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SCAN TO
CONTRIBUTE



“DO WHAT
YOU CAN
WITH WHAT
YOU HAVE
WHERE
YOU ARE”

— TEDDY
ROOSEVELT

