



# The Rural Finance and Investment Learning Centre

A knowledge hub dedicated to rural finance and agricultural investment topics hosted by the CABFIN partnership

[www.ruralfinanceandinvestment.org](http://www.ruralfinanceandinvestment.org)

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**PARTNERSHIP**  
CAPACITY BUILDING  
IN RURAL FINANCE



Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations



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# Overview

- 1) Brief history
- 2) Key functionalities of the web platform targeted at practitioners
- 3) Upcoming services and products resulting from CABFIN knowledge initiatives
- 4) Conclusions

# Brief history

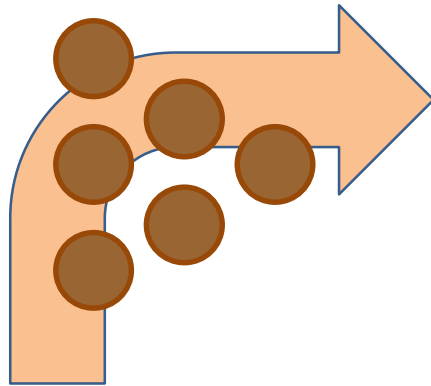
Founded in 2004, the RFILC is the result of the "Improving Capacity Building in Rural Finance" (CABFIN) project, a collaboration effort from partners like IFAD, FAO, GIZ/BMZ, UNCDF and the World Bank. This project aims to jointly facilitate knowledge dissemination, capacity development and dialogue among relevant public and private stakeholders working to increase the availability of a wide range of financial services adapted to the needs of rural livelihoods.

The RFILC has grown to become one of the largest information gateways specialized in rural finance and agricultural investment topics. It has over 3,500 documents in three languages with their abstracts in the library, including policy research and on-line and ready-to-use training materials produced by leading organizations worldwide. In addition, the RFILC disseminates current events, news highlights and multimedia to over 5,000 registered members from 150 countries.



# The RFILC editorial focus: bridging professional networks

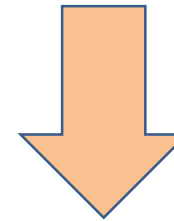
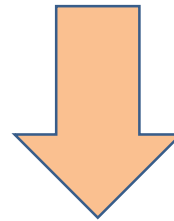
Public and private  
partners and stakeholders



Country interventions

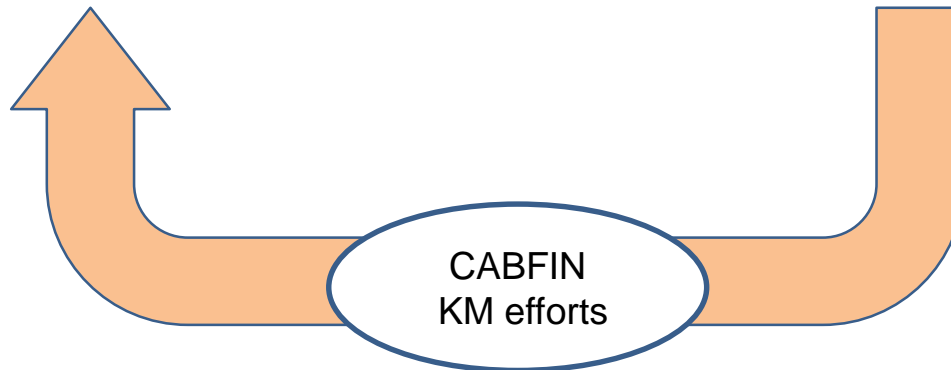


Policy research and  
capacity development



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Individual KM efforts



# The RFILC Library



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Business Support

Rural Financial Services

Policy Advice

Investment

Sharing Knowledge.  
Fostering Growth.

RURAL FINANCE & INVESTMENT LEARNING CENTRE

## Welcome to the RFILC

For the optimal experience, we recommend [creating a user account](#) which will provide you with direct access to resources recommended for your specific interests and areas of operation. You will have the opportunity to share valuable resources with other RFILC members, engage in online discussions and receive the *Rural Finance Update* monthly newsletter.

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# The Library section > Business support services

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## LIBRARY RESOURCES

resource title	type	year	resource
<input type="text"/>			
<a href="#">Economía y Finanzas Populares y Solidarias para el buen vivir en Ecuador</a>	Document	2015	<a href="#">Spanish (es)</a>
<a href="#">IFAD press clippings</a>	Article	2014	<a href="#">English (en)</a>
<a href="#">Credit Constraints, Occupational Choice, and the Process of Development: Long Run Evidence from Cash Transfers in Uganda</a>	Paper	2013	<a href="#">English (en)</a>
<a href="#">Understanding Youth and their Financial Needs</a>	Paper	2013	<a href="#">English (en)</a>
<a href="#">Farmer Bankability and Sustainable Finance: Farm-Level Metrics that Matter</a>	Report	2013	<a href="#">English (en)</a>
<a href="#">The New Microfinance Handbook: A Financial Market System Perspective</a>	Book	2013	<a href="#">English (en)</a>

Search any Term

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Geographical Area

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### Business Support Services

#### Rural Financial Services

- Rural Financial Services: General
- Cooperatives
- Credit unions
- Financial management
- Financial sector linkages
- Financial products
- Governance
- Informal group finance
- Insurance
- Islamic banking
- Leasing

# Most popular library sub-sections during the past quarter



## Business support services:

- > Agribusiness and enterprise support
- > Contract farming good practices
- > Savings groups
- > Value chain development



## Rural financial services:

- > Financial cooperatives
- > Islamic finance
- > Remittances and payments
- > Insurance



## Policy advice:

- > Agricultural finance innovation
- > Banking for the poor
- > Prudential regulation
- > Gender mainstreaming



## Investments:

- > Equity investments in agribusiness
- > Investment promotion
- > Public-private partnerships
- > Rural Invest program



# The RFILC training section



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FIND VALUABLE

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Guides for trainers

Training tools

Training opportunities

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CONNECT WITH COMMUNITY

**The RFILC: your global knowledge hub on rural and agricultural finance and investment**

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Library



Training



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# The Training section > Guide for trainers

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## Training

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## Guides for trainers

The training guides included here will enable training managers and staff of recognised training organisations to deliver short courses on topics of particular importance to the development of rural finance.

Each topic, for which a guide is provided, has a set of session notes outlining the objectives of each session and providing handouts, exercises, answers and guidelines for trainers to follow. The material can be used exactly as provided or simply used to enhance existing courses by providing new material for trainers to adapt to their own circumstances.

It is hoped the material will be found useful at all levels from postgraduate students to new recruits for banks or NGOs, as well as trainers themselves, senior people such as bank chairmen, policy makers and donor staff. All session notes will include references to materials featured in the resources section of the Rural Finance Learning Centre and may include case studies, visual aids and documents providing theoretical background.

- [Enterprise development](#)
- [Agricultural Investment Promotion](#)
- [Agricultural Loan Analyzer](#)
- [Agricultural Value Chain Finance](#)
- [Financial Market Assessment for the Agricultural Sector](#)
- [Financial sector linkages](#)
- [Microfinance for bankers](#)
- [Rural finance course](#)

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## Training Menu

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**Search Terms**

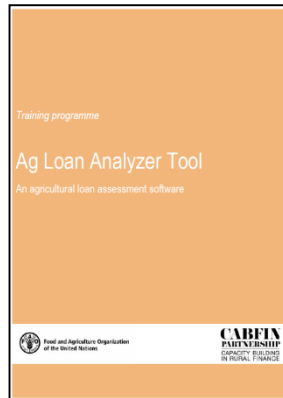
**Year of Publication**

**Type**

# Example of recent training courses added



Introduction to key market assessment principles and tools that can help financial institutions estimate the demand for specific agriculture finance products; and identify different risk management and delivery strategies for such products



Introduction to practical tools and theories for agricultural loan appraisal. The training includes hands-on training using Ag Loan Analyzer.xls – A user-friendly excel-based software facilitating agricultural loan appraisals based on cash-flow analysis



Shows strategies for agribusiness investment promotion that public sector agencies, private sector actors, technical assistance providers, and others need to respond to the agricultural investment gap and help rural investors capitalize on expanding agricultural markets



In this course, the participants will learn to analyze the products and their delivery mechanisms with the risk mitigation tools to serve the actors of the entire ag value chain. It described different business models, risk mitigating tools and the available instruments for delivering agricultural financial services

<http://www.ruralfinanceandinvestment.org/training/guides-for-trainers>

# The RFILC news and events sections

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## The Global Index Insurance Conference: "Building Innovative Solutions in Agriculture Insurance"

OECD Headquarters, Paris, France

**Monday, September 14, 2015 to Tuesday, September 15, 2015**

When properly developed with private and public interventions, Index Insurance can be an innovative and efficient financial instrument. Index Insurance helps poor smallholder farmers manage increasing climate risks to their harvests. Index insurance will allow farmers to survive adverse weather or destroyed harvests and potentially open up larger agri-credit markets; enabling farmers to protect their assets and invest in their farms, accessing faster payouts when their business and families are at stake.

## Conférence mondiale sur l'assurance indicielle "Développer des solutions innovantes pour l'industrie de l'assurance"

Siège de l'OCDE, Paris, France

**Monday, September 14, 2015 to Tuesday, September 15, 2015**

***Le Global Index Insurance Facility - GIIF du Groupe de la Banque mondiale, en partenariat avec la Fondation Grameen Crédit Agricole, AXA Corporate Solutions, Swiss Re Corporate Solutions et le programme Impact Insurance du Bureau international du travail, organise sa Conférence mondiale sur l'assurance indicielle les 14 et 15 Septembre 2015 à Paris.***

## XV Foro Ecuatoriano de Microfinanzas

Ecuador

**Wednesday, September 16, 2015 to Friday, September 18, 2015**

El objetivo del foro es dotar a los participantes, argumentos y herramientas que contribuyan al descubrimiento de nuevas técnicas y estrategias para lograr ampliar los servicios financieros a través de espacios de reflexión, discusión y análisis acerca de los últimos avances, investigaciones y nuevos desafíos.

Country

## Event Archives

SG2015: The Power of Savings Groups  
Introducing Rural Finance and Investment  
Learning Centre  
Foire des Innovations Paysannes de l'Afrique de l'Ouest  
Atelier francophone sur les Approches de Recherche et du Développement  
De la aspiración a la realidad: El acceso financiero universal en América Latina  
International Study Visit on Mobile Banking and Agency Banking  
International Conference on Innovative Agriculture Financing  
Global AgInvesting 2015  
Realizing Rural Resilience and Inclusive Growth by Reducing Risk: Is Agricultural Insurance the Key?  
E-Workshop on Agricultural Risk Management: Innovations you should know about  
Conférence sur les chaînes de valeur riz en Afrique de l'Ouest  
3ème édition du Salon de l'agriculture et des

# The RFILC news and events sections

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## News

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## Investing in agriculture Barbarians at the farm gate

Investment, Agriculture Investment

Global



In the next 40 years, humans will need to produce more food than they did in the previous 10,000 put together. But with sprawling cities gobbling up arable land, agricultural productivity gains decreasing, and demand for biofuels increasing, supply is not keeping up with demand. Clever farmers, scientists and entrepreneurs are bursting with ideas. But they need money to make this jump....

Investors need to separate the wheat from the chaff. Farm investing requires patience; it is ill-suited to flipping and trading. But those willing to climb over the barriers could reap big reward...

 [Continue Reading](#)

## The Key to Fighting Poverty in Africa: Could unlocking smallholder finance solve both the continent's food and employment challenges?

smallholder finance, Agriculture



# Upcoming services and products

***New discussion forum:*** Recently made fully operational, the RFILC discussion forum allows for registered members to share their ideas and work with the rest of the community, in addition to debating current issues.

***Policy research:*** Results from a two-year field research project in Latin America, supported by the CABFIN partnership, will be published by FAO in October 2015, identifying innovations in risk management for the delivery of agricultural financial services for smallholder families and recommendations on how to up-scale them. This is part of a publication series that also covers the Africa and Asia regions.

***E-learning courses:*** some of the flagship in-class training courses that have been widely taught throughout the world will be transformed into facilitated e-learning courses that will be offered several times a year. Courses will start being offered in April 2016 through partners like AFRACA, APRACA and ALIDE.





# Conclusions

- ❖ Rural finance and agricultural investments have well known singularities resulting from high levels of **interdependence** among stakeholder in the agro-rural economy, which implies the need to consider aspects that go **beyond the individual clients** and include understanding of the industry and the policy enabling environment.
- ❖ The **multidisciplinary** needed has induced a relatively patchy professional network that does very important work related to service delivery know-how, capacity development and policy research and interventions, partially covering different dimensions of the challenges from different perspectives.
- ❖ The CABFIN partnership is an effort to consolidate this work, and the RFILC aims to facilitate access to those knowledge products generated worldwide for practitioners, policy makers, academics and donors. This aims to contribute to a **consensus-building** process that sets good practices to promote inclusive rural financial markets and agricultural investments with greater developmental impact.
- ❖ Become a member of the RFILC and try it for yourself!





Thank you for your attention!

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**giz**



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