

Grameen Koota ranked 19th best MFI of the world by Forbes

We are pleased to inform you that Grameen Koota has been ranked one of the Best MFIs in world by Forbes Magazine. The Forbes Magazine has compiled its first ever list of Top 50 Microfinance institution of the world and Grameen Koota got 19th rank. They did this exercise based on the data provided by The Mix, M-CRILL and MICRO RATE. The lists of 50 top MFIs have chosen from the list of 641 MFIs.

Please find the Forbes's cover article and comprehensive list in the next page.



Overall Rank of Grameen Koota

<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>SCALE</u>	<u>EFFICIENCY</u>	<u>RISK</u>	<u>RETURNS</u>
19	GRAMEEN KOOTA	INDIA	209	106	156	1

Rank of Grameen Koota in India

<u>INDIA</u>	<u>OVERALL RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>SCALE</u>	<u>EFFICIENCY</u>	<u>RISK</u>	<u>RETURNS</u>
1	2	Bandhan (Society and NBFC)	India	108	49	42	1
2	13	Microcredit Foundation of India	India	75	142	7	185
3	15	Saadhana Microfin Society	India	263	79	73	1
4	19	Grameen Koota	India	209	106	156	1
5	23	Sharada's Women's Association for Weaker Section	India	229	207	55	13
6	29	Asmitha Microfin Ltd.	India	80	254	73	111
7	44	SKS Microfinance Private Limited	India	61	395	141	1

Microfinance **The World's Top Microfinance Institutions**

Matthew Swibel 12.20.07, 6:00 PM ET

Microfinance has become a buzzword of the decade, raising the provocative notion that even philanthropy aimed at alleviating poverty can be profitable to institutional and individual investors. Instead of merely writing a check (then writing it off), why not make a tidy profit from a short-term, high-interest loan, most for under \$200, so that a Mexican seamstress may buy a new sewing machine? Or so a Moroccan farmer can buy chickens so he may sell more eggs? Billionaires, global leaders and Nobel Prize recipients are hailing these direct loans to uncollateralized would-be entrepreneurs as a way to lift them out of poverty while creating self-sustaining businesses.

That promise has had a magnetic effect on private capital sources. Microfinance funding from private investors more than tripled to \$2 billion in 2006. The field has attracted sterling banks and fund managers, including Citigroup (nyse: [C](#) - [news](#) - [people](#)), blue-chip venture capitalists like Sequoia Capital, tycoons like eBay (nasdaq: [EBAY](#) - [news](#) - [people](#)) founder Pierre Omidyar and Oscar-winning screen stars such as Robert Duvall--they've all joined the chase for returns in microfinance. Today, there are upward of 12,000 microfinance institutions issuing loans.

To help investors parse them, Forbes compiled its first-ever list of the Top Microfinance Institutions. We scoured 2006 data from the Microfinance Information Exchange, as well as analysis from ratings firms Micro-Credit Ratings International Limited and MicroRate, to rank the top 50 microfinance institutions (from a field of 641 reporting microfinance providers) by examining six key variables: gross loan portfolio, operating expense, operating expenses divided by the average number of active borrowers as a percentage of gross national income per capita, the outstanding balance of loans overdue by more than 30 days as a percent of gross loan portfolio, return on assets and return on equity. Each microfinance institution earned scores in four equally weighted categories--scale, efficiency, portfolio risk and profitability. Rankings were then based on the combined average score of those four categories.

To earn a spot on our ranking, the institution must have had audited financial statements for 2006 or submitted these for 2005, with the intention of providing audited 2006 results when available. Note that our rankings attempt to measure financial performance, not the social benefits of any microfinance institution.

Even the least credit-worthy Americans might gasp at the high rates of interest to which recipients of microfinance loans are subjected--as much as 85% isn't unusual. But veteran microfinance experts are quick to remind scoffers about the typical alternatives--a village moneylender who might charge interest rates three or more times as high.

As is the case for any "hot" investment vehicle, investors should exercise prudence when jumping into the arena. Fly-by-nights aren't uncommon in this new market. Supporting the wrong microfinance outfit may fail to reduce poverty or produce financial returns. Check out the [essay](#) by Morgan Stanley (nyse: [MS](#) - [news](#) - [people](#)) executive Ian Callaghan on the perils of hunting for microfinance investments.

Our microfinance package also includes fresh [commentary](#) from Elizabeth Littlefield, a senior World Bank official, who discusses public vs. private funds flowing to this trendy niche. Michael Chu, a veteran private-equity investor in microfinance and Harvard Business School professor, [argues](#) why lending to the poor shouldn't involve self-sacrifice. And legendary actor [Robert Duvall](#)

and his wife Luciana Pedraza give an exclusive [interview](#) to the Forbes Video Network on their work on behalf of microfinance in Latin America.

The 50 Top Microfinance Institutions

Matthew Swibel 12.20.07, 6:00 PM ET

RANK	NAME	COUNTRY	SCALE	EFFICIENCY	RISK	RETURNS
1	ASA	Bangladesh	14	83	56	40
2	Bandhan (Society and NBFC)	India	108	49	42	1
3	Banco do Nordeste	Brazil	46	27	213	25
4	Fundación Mundial de la Mujer Bucaramanga	Colombia	58	72	193	1
5	FONDEP Micro-Crédit	Morocco	119	26	196	1
6	Amhara Credit and Savings Institution	Ethiopia	56	126	118	42
7	Banco Compartamos, S.A., Institución de Banca Múltiple	Mexico	15	24	295	11
8	Association Al Amana for the Promotion of Micro-Enterprises Morocco	Morocco	17	212	133	1
9	Fundación Mundo Mujer Popayán	Colombia	53	181	141	1
10	Fundación WWB Colombia - Cali	Colombia	27	206	155	4
11	Consumer Credit Union 'Economic Partnership'	Russia	82	300	19	1
12	Fondation Banque Populaire pour le Micro-Credit	Morocco	59	126	219	1
13	Microcredit Foundation of India	India	75	142	7	185
14	EKI	Bosnia and Herzegovina	66	102	242	1
15	Saadhana Microfin Society	India	263	79	73	1
16	Jagorani Chakra Foundation	Bangladesh	136	176	128	1
17	Grameen Bank	Bangladesh	8	280	100	62
18	Partner	Bosnia and Herzegovina	64	169	230	1
19	Grameen Koota	India	209	106	156	1
20	Caja Municipal de Ahorro y Crédito de Cusco	Peru	48	99	222	119
21	Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee	Bangladesh	10	159	126	205
22	AgroInvest	Serbia	84	195	222	1
23	Caja Municipal de Ahorro y Crédito de Trujillo	Peru	20	163	220	101
23	Sharada's Women's Association for Weaker Section	India	229	207	55	13
24	MIKROFIN Banja Luka	Bosnia and Herzegovina	60	240	205	1
25	Khan Bank (Agricultural Bank of Mongolia LLP)	Mongolia	19	149	280	59
26	INECO Bank	Armenia	96	173	202	39
27	Fondation Zakoura	Morocco	51	268	194	1

28	Dakahlya Businessmen's Association for Community Development	Egypt	200	215	102	1
29	Asmitha Microfin Ltd.	India	80	254	73	111
30	Credi Fe Desarrollo Microempresarial S.A.	Ecuador	28	252	206	34
31	Dedebit Credit and Savings Institution	Ethiopia	50	246	80	154
32	MI-BOSPO Tuzla	Bosnia and Herzegovina	128	120	283	1
33	Fundacion Para La Promocion y el Desarrollo	Nicaragua	173	89	171	100
34	Kashf Foundation	Pakistan	123	194	219	1
35	Shakti Foundation for Disadvantaged Women	Bangladesh	170	221	151	1
36	enda inter-arabe	Tunisia	198	90	257	1
37	Kazakhstan Loan Fund	Kazakhstan	120	118	320	1
38	Integrated Development Foundation	Bangladesh	300	134	140	1
39	Microcredit Organization Sunrise	Bosnia and Herzegovina	114	103	341	17
40	FINCA - ECU	Ecuador	125	138	264	54
41	Caja Municipal de Ahorro y Crédito de Arequipa	Peru	23	126	220	215
42	Crédito con Educación Rural	Bolivia	135	152	298	1
43	BESA Fund	Albania	109	135	345	1
44	SKS Microfinance Private Limited	India	61	395	141	1
45	Development and Employment Fund	Jordan	83	388	135	1
46	Programas para la Mujer - Peru	Peru	292	82	242	1
47	Kreditimi Rural i Kosoves LLC (formerly Rural Finance Project of Kosovo)	Kosovo	213	158	247	1
48	BURO, formerly BURO Tangail	Bangladesh	137	207	186	91
49	Opportunity Bank A.D. Podgorica	Serbia	49	234	319	23
50	Sanasa Development Bank	Sri Lanka	86	206	93	241

Forbes' first-ever list of the World's Top 50 Microfinance Institutions were chosen from a field of 641 micro-credit providers. The list was prepared by the Microfinance Information Exchange (www.themix.org) under the direction of *Forbes* magazine. To qualify, the institutions must have made available their audited financials and must have passed review by a *Forbes* panel of advisers.

This sortable table gives the rank (out of 641) for the top institutions according to scale, which is based on the size of their gross loan portfolio; efficiency, which considers operating expense and the cost per borrower as a percent of the gross national income per capita of their country of operation; risk, which looks at the quality of their loan portfolios, measured as the percent of the portfolio at risk greater than 30 days; and return, which is measured as a combination of return on equity and return on assets. Each category is equally weighted for an institution's overall ranking.

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Comprehensive list of Ranking

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