

## Sponsorship:

### TRAVEL AND HOTEL ACCOMODATION:

Authors of the accepted papers will be provided round-trip economy class air ticket and hotel accommodation during the workshop.

### PROCEEDINGS/PUBLICATION

This Workshop is intended as a meeting of minds among thinkers, scholars and practitioners (maximum 40 persons). The papers presented at the discussion will be reviewed and considered for publishing in a textbook that IRTI/IIUI are aiming at.

### ACADEMIC CONTACTS

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Abdelrahman Elzahi Saaid Ali  
Islamic Economic Research Division  
IRTI/IsDB  
E-mail: [aelzahi@isdb.org](mailto:aelzahi@isdb.org)  
Tel: +966 2 6466328

Prof Abdul Ghafar Ismail  
Islamic Economic Research Division  
IRTI/IsDB  
E-mail: [AgIsmail@isdb.org](mailto:AgIsmail@isdb.org)  
Tel: +966 2 646 6330

Muhammad Khaleequzzaman  
Chairman School of Islamic Banking & Finance  
International Institute of Islamic Economics  
International Islamic University Islamabad  
Pakistan  
[mkhaleequzzaman@yahoo.com](mailto:mkhaleequzzaman@yahoo.com)  
Phone: +9251 9258026  
Cell: +92 333 5153766

# INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON BUSINESS MODELS IN ISLAMIC MICROFINANCE

6 and 7 May 2014

## ORGANIZERS:

International Islamic University Islamabad  
and  
Islamic Research and Training Institute (IRTI/GIDB), Jeddah

**VENUE:** International Islamic University Islamabad Pakistan

International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI) and Islamic Research and Training Institute Islamic Development Bank (IRTI/GIDB), Jeddah, are jointly organizing a workshop on Business Models in Islamic Microfinance at IIUI during 6-7 May 2014 with prime objective of holding a forum of diverse stakeholders including practitioners, academicians, regulators, and innovators from Pakistan and other countries to deliberate and form concerted view about and outlining the viable business models for Islamic Microfinance (IMF) that could comply with Shariah and provide financial services to millions of poor Muslims in a sustainable and an efficient manner





IIUI visions to develop an international Islamic seat of higher learning, research, instruction, and training in various branches of knowledge with special emphasis on Islamic framework and to produce balanced and harmonious human personality, duly informed of and embedded with the world view and infused with Islamic idealism. The International Institute of Islamic Economics (IIIE) organizes teaching of modern and Islamic economics, Islamic banking and finance and other related disciplines. It promotes cooperation with other institutions in the above fields and the allied disciplines through seminars, colloquia, and conferences. The Institute accomplishes the academic, research, and training objectives through school of economics and school of Islamic banking & finance, supported by research and training divisions.

The Islamic Development Bank (IDB) aims to promote the economic development and social progress of member countries and Muslim communities in the world. The Islamic Research and Training Institute (IRTI) is an affiliate of the Islamic Development Bank Group and is responsible for leading the development and sustenance of the Islamic Financial Services Industry that supports socio-economic development in Member countries. More particularly, it operates undertaking wider activities by building capacity, conducting research, holding policy dialogues, providing advisory & consulting, and producing journal and publications. IRTI's Islamic Banking and Finance Division has already planned to explore the new areas in the field of banking - financial engineering, applications of Islamic finance, regulation of Islamic financial institutions, insurance and social security and risk management

### CALL FOR PAPERS

Islamic microfinance has grown with the rise of Islamic financial institutions worldwide. The facts demonstrate that varying proportions of Muslim populations have self excluded from conventional microfinance owing to prohibition of *riba*. The question of inclusion becomes more significant when demand for Islamic finance is considered. CGAP cited that 20-60% of populations in various Muslim countries demonstrated potential demand to access Islamic finance. However, the microfinance institutions suffer from sustainability issues in more than one way. Either concentration in very few products imitated from corporate sector has been resorted or the MFIs have not been recognized through viable business models or the optimum scale has not been reached. Particularly, in view of the scale and efficiency, the MFIs would have to focus on more challenging tasks which must include developing new products to serve larger clientele with diverse needs, realize sustainable income, and integrate operations with business development services.

The idea of current event – Business Models in Islamic Microfinance – has been conceived through these considerations in association with IRTI/IDB which has remained part of periodical discussions on specific Islamic microfinance issues aiming at redefining the relevant context in sustainable environment. With IRTI's orientation in best practices of microfinance at international level, the workshop emphasizes strong operative perspective through presentations by experts and participation of a limited number of attendees through invitation.

The workshop will operate along three main directions:

- Discussion and presentation of various business models in Islamic microfinance – issues and trends
- Identification of specific business ideas for sustainability of Islamic microfinance
- In-depth analysis of the most advanced experiences in this field

The workshop expects to frame lines of action and concrete project possibilities regarding business models in Islamic microfinance and related issues for IDB member countries in particular. IRTI will create a synthesis report on the results of the workshop which will be utilized for the benefit of IRTI, as well as the participants and their countries, to draw policy implications for sustainable growth of Islamic microfinance around the world.

### CALL FOR PAPERS

The organizers aim to encourage submission of papers investigating the business models for Islamic microfinance, but not necessarily limited to, the following broad areas:

- Business Model in Selected Countries
- Business Model and Operational Efficiency
- Business Model and Value Creation
- Reporting Standards Initiative
- Mobile Banking
- Fi-Sabilillah (Volunteerism) and IMF Model
- Capital structure
- Risk management
- Business development support

### IMPORTANT DATES:

Submission of Paper March 30, 2014,  
Final Decision on Paper April 15, 2014.  
Workshop: May 6-7, 2014