



PMIC
Pakistan Microfinance Investment
Company Limited

Connect

May 2024

Issue # 05-24



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Portfolio Highlights



PKR 26.9
(Billion)

LOAN PORTFOLIO



26

TOTAL BORROWERS



692,161

TOTAL CLIENTS



87%

WOMEN CLIENTS



87

NUMBER OF DISTRICTS



42%

YOUTH CLIENTS



64%

RURAL



830

LIVESTOCK INSURED



PKR 4.59 (Billion)

LOAN PORTFOLIO
DEPLOYMENT IN
EXTREME POVERTY ZONES



1

(Million)+
CUMULATIVE JOBS
SUPPORTED BY MICROFINANCE
LENDING OPERATIONS



34,295

RENEWABLE ENERGY -
UNITS SOLD



PKR 112
(Billion)

INCREMENTAL REVENUE
GENERATION BY PMIC
FINANCE MICRO ENTERPRISES





Portfolio Management Department Initiatives

Field Visit -SVDP

The PMD team recently conducted a one-day field visit to SVDP, where they engaged with the management team to discuss prospects and evaluate overall performance. During the visit, the PMD team also met with several clients who expressed satisfaction with the products, services, and treatment by the field staff, although they did have a concern about the need for larger loan sizes.



PMIC Islamic Financing Operations

PMIC is set to enter the Islamic finance sector, collaborating with both existing and new Microfinance Providers (MFPs). They have developed Shariah-compliant products and a Policy Framework, including a Profit & Loss Distribution and Pool Management system. Additionally, a Shariah Advisor has been appointed to oversee the process. While the products will not require regulatory approval, however, PMIC will request permission from the SECP Sharia Board. Once the endorsement is received, these products will be available for both borrowers and lenders.

Induction of New Borrowers

Meetings with new institutions are ongoing, and negotiations with some of them have progressed, potentially designating them as borrowers of PMIC. Additionally, PMD held meetings with Trukkers Financial Services and Neem Exponential and both institutions have shown interest in forming a partnership with PMIC.

SECTOR DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PROJECTS

PRIME

PMIC team continued deployment of the PRIME program, where activity had picked up after the launch of the Euro 5 Million subsidy scheme in March 2024. A considerable uptake was noticed in the deployment of larger solar systems (up to 5 KWs) and solar tube wells. Four new borrowers are being added to the PRIME program including NRSP, JWS Pakistan, Taleem Finance Company Limited, and the Damen support program. In order to provide support to MFPs to increase financing under the PRIME program, a proposal for technical assistance was developed and approved by the Management Risk Committee. The TA support shall be provided to MFPs for hiring dedicated PRIME staff (Renewable Energy experts) and for marketing and organizing community awareness sessions targeting communities residing in off-grid and poor-grid areas of the country.



Education Finance Program

Education Finance is a collaboration between PMIC and Opportunity International. The program is designed to provide financing and educational quality training to 150 Low-Cost Private Schools (LCPs) in Southern Punjab. The Education Quality Program is implemented in partnership with Agahe Pakistan, RCDP, and TFCL.

The education quality program is a three-year training program designed to improve school leadership, school management, and quality teaching methods. The Teacher Mentorship Professional Development first cohort has been completed in Lahore and Multan districts and the second cohort was conducted in one cluster of Gujranwala, three clusters of Sheikhupura, and one cluster of Nankana Sahib, the second cohort will be completed across all districts during June. The training is conducted by education specialists hired by OI.



Field visit to schools in Nankana and Multan

PMIC team conducted a field visit in Schools in Nankana Sahib and Multan during May to assess the outcome of the training. Teachers were actively participating in the school matters and have implemented the teaching methods taught by education specialists.



Electronic Warehouse Receipt Financing

PMIC is progressing with its strategic initiative to bolster the agriculture ecosystem, with a particular emphasis on post-harvest financing through Electronic Warehouse Receipts Financing (EWRs) for small-scale farmers. Following a successful pilot phase that provided PKR 40 million in EWR financing for maize and rice, two rice EWRs financed by PMIC were repaid by farmers within the due timelines in May 2024. As PMIC continues to expand its support for EWR financing, it is poised to significantly impact the agricultural landscape, ultimately enhancing the welfare and prosperity of farming communities.

Challenge Fund Round II – Digital Credit Scoring Model

Under the Challenge Fund Round II – Digital Credit Scoring Model, meetings with PMIC and MFIs were conducted to align characteristics, parameters, and weight assignments. Qarar has introduced a dashboard for MFIs, with their data scientists continuously evaluating the expert model and maintaining close communication with the participating MFIs. The results from testing and implementing the initial Expert Scorecard are being closely monitored and adjusted to enhance the dashboard by incorporating additional fields for a comprehensive score.



PMIC is Awarded for Outstanding Performance in the Microfinance Sector by NBFI & Modaraba Association

PMIC has been awarded Certificates for Outstanding Performance in the microfinance sector by the NBFI & Modaraba Association's Year Book 2023! This recognition is a testament to our unwavering commitment to empowering communities through financial inclusion and sustainable development. Our team's dedication, hard work, and innovative approach have made a significant contribution to the microfinance sector, and we are proud to be acknowledged for our efforts. Our heartfelt gratitude to the NBFI & Modaraba Association for this honor. We remain steadfast in our mission to create opportunities and improve lives across Pakistan.



PMIC's informal to international initiative: Daraz and PMIC signing ceremony

The CEOs of PMIC and Daraz officially signed in partnership for the PMIC's Informal to International initiative in May, in collaboration with the Male Champions of Change forum. This partnership signifies a shared commitment to innovation, bridging barriers, fostering inclusivity, and driving impactful change! Together, we're empowering rural women in Pakistan to seize opportunities in the global e-commerce market. The project envisions to reduce the gender gap through economic empowerment and digital literacy.



PMIC CEO's Talk on Psychological Safety, Inclusion, and Belonging in the Workplace in EY Ford Rhodes Master Training

At the recent CEO Panel discussion at the EY Ford Rhodes Master Training, PMIC's CEO delivered an insightful address on the importance of psychological safety, inclusion, and belonging within our organization. We are proud to affirm that PMIC is committed to fostering a psychologically safe workplace for all employees, this dedication to creating an inclusive and supportive environment is integral to our success and reflects our core values. By prioritizing psychological safety and belonging, we ensure that every team member feels valued, respected, and empowered to contribute their best. This approach not only enhances individual well-being but also drives organizational excellence.





Client Success Story



The Inspiring Story of Bachoo Mai's Rise to Success

Originating from the village of Karam Daad Qureshi in Muzaffargarh district, Bachoo Mai always harbored aspirations far beyond the confines of her rural surroundings. While supporting her husband's modest income as a kiln worker by selling milk from their two buffalos, she nurtured a vision of prosperity for her family. Determined to afford her four children's access to education and a better quality of life, Bachoo Mai embarked on a journey fueled by resilience and ambition.



With unwavering determination, Bachoo Mai seized an opportunity to realize her dreams through entrepreneurship. Seeking financial assistance from Agahe Pakistan (PMIC's client), she acquired a livestock loan to expand her dairy business. Combining the loan with her own savings, she strategically invested in an additional buffalo, laying the groundwork for her future success.

Empowered by her newfound resources, Bachoo Mai wasted no time in leveraging her entrepreneurial acumen. Through diligent effort and strategic planning, she swiftly established herself as a respected supplier of milk within her community. Buoyed by her initial achievements, she boldly pursued further growth opportunities, securing a second loan to acquire yet another buffalo. Today, Bachoo Mai's unwavering resolve has transformed her family's fortunes, exemplifying the transformative power of determination and perseverance.



People and Culture



Farewell

Mahnoor Ijaz resigned from her position as AM Legal & Procurement. PMIC management and team wished her luck in her future endeavors.

Competency Development Training

On May 17th, the HR Department organized a Competency Development Training session for all PMIC employees, led by Mr. Kamran Rizvi from Carnelian. Prior to this session, we conducted an internal "Dipstick Survey" where 10 team members from each department anonymously shared their opinions and ideas on small post-it notes. The responses to this survey were compiled and presented to the trainer, who used them to design the training exercises and activities. The training focused on PMIC's core values and included various team activities aimed at enhancing and reinforcing these principles. These activities also facilitated inter-departmental connections and promoted a collaborative network. Additionally, the training provided internal stakeholders with the opportunity to give feedback and share their perspectives, fostering a culture of continuous improvement and a unified vision.



Birthdays



Shabir Ahmed



Employee Contribution

Muhammad Qaiser

Assistant Manager Administration

Title: Building Stronger Bonds: The Power of Team Building Activities

Introduction:

In today's dynamic and fast-paced work environments, fostering strong relationships among team members is essential for success. Team building activities offer a powerful way to enhance communication, collaboration, and cohesion within a group. In this article, we explore the importance of team-building activities and share effective strategies for creating memorable and impactful experiences.

The Importance of Team Building Activities:

- 1. Enhancing Communication:** Effective communication is the cornerstone of a high-performing team. Team building activities provide opportunities for team members to interact in a relaxed setting, improving communication skills and fostering open dialogue.
- 2. Promoting Collaboration:** Team-building activities often require collaboration and cooperation to achieve common goals. By working together to solve challenges and overcome obstacles, team members learn to trust and rely on each other, strengthening the bonds of teamwork.
- 3. Building Trust:** Trust is essential for a productive and harmonious work environment. Team building activities build trust by encouraging vulnerability, promoting empathy, and fostering a sense of belonging among team members.
- 4. Boosting Morale:** Fun and engaging team-building activities help boost morale and create a positive work culture. They provide a break from the routine and give team members an opportunity to unwind, recharge, and bond with their colleagues.

Effective Strategies for Team Building Activities:

- 1. Tailor Activities to Team Dynamics:** Consider the unique characteristics and dynamics of your team when planning team-building activities. Choose activities that align with your team's goals, preferences, and areas for improvement.
- 2. Mix Fun with Learning:** Strike a balance between fun and learning in your team-building activities. Incorporate games, challenges, and interactive exercises that encourage problem-solving, creativity, and skill development.
- 3. Foster Inclusivity:** Ensure that team building activities are inclusive and accessible to all team members. Avoid activities that may exclude or alienate certain individuals based on their abilities, preferences, or backgrounds.
- 4. Reflect and Debrief:** After completing a team-building activity, take time to reflect on the experience and discuss key takeaways as a group. Encourage team members to share their thoughts, insights, and feelings, and identify actionable steps for applying what they've learned in the workplace.

Examples of Team Building Activities:

- 1. Outdoor Adventure:** Activities such as ropes courses, scavenger hunts, and outdoor challenges promote teamwork, problem-solving, and resilience while enjoying nature.
- 2. Escape Rooms:** Escape room experiences require collaboration, communication, and critical thinking as teams work together to solve puzzles and unlock clues to escape within a set time frame.
- 3. Volunteer Projects:** Participating in volunteer projects or community service activities not only strengthens team bonds but also reinforces a sense of purpose and social responsibility among team members.
- 4. Team-Building Workshops:** Facilitated workshops focusing on topics such as leadership, conflict resolution, and emotional intelligence provide valuable learning opportunities while promoting team cohesion.

Conclusion:

Team building activities play a vital role in fostering strong relationships, enhancing communication, and promoting collaboration within teams. By investing in meaningful and engaging team-building experiences, organizations can create a positive work culture where employees feel valued, supported, and motivated to achieve common goals.



Zeeshan Khan Shahid Chief Technology Officer

How Excessive Screen Time is Affecting Our Health: A Wake-Up Call

In today's digital age, screens have become an inescapable part of our lives. From smartphones to laptops to televisions, we are constantly bombarded with visual stimuli. While technology offers numerous benefits, excessive screen time can have detrimental effects on our physical and mental health.

Physical Health Impacts:

Staring at screens for extended periods can lead to eye strain, headaches, and blurred vision. The blue light emitted from screens can also disrupt our sleep patterns. Studies have linked excessive screen time to increased risk of obesity, heart disease, and type 2 diabetes. This is due to a combination of factors, including sedentary behavior, unhealthy snacking, and disrupted sleep.

Poor posture and repetitive movements associated with screen use can lead to neck pain, back pain, and carpal tunnel syndrome.

Mental Health Impacts:

Excessive screen time has been associated with increased anxiety, depression, and loneliness. Social media, in particular, can contribute to feelings of inadequacy and social comparison. Some studies suggest that excessive screen time may increase the risk of developing ADHD in children.

The constant stimulation and dopamine release associated with screen use can lead to addiction, making it difficult to disconnect and engage in other activities.

Cognitive Impacts:

Excessive screen time can impair short-term memory and attention span. It can also interfere with the development of critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Spending too much time in front of screens can stifle creativity and imagination. Children who engage in more screen time may have less opportunity for unstructured play, which is crucial for developing these skills.

Strategies for Reducing Screen Time:

Establish clear limits on screen time for yourself and your family. Use timers, apps, or parental controls to help enforce these limits. Take regular breaks from screens throughout the day. Get up and move around, stretch, or look away at something in the distance.

Designate certain areas of your home or workplace as screen-free zones, such as bedrooms or dining tables. Make time for activities that don't involve screens, such as reading, spending time in nature, or socializing with friends and family. If you are struggling to manage your screen time or experiencing negative impacts on your health, consider seeking professional help from a therapist or counselor.

Conclusion:

Excessive screen time can have significant negative impacts on our physical, mental, and cognitive health. It is crucial to be mindful of our screen use and implement strategies to reduce our exposure. By taking steps to limit our screen time and engage in healthier activities, we can protect our well-being and live more balanced lives. Remember, the digital world should enhance our lives, not control them. Let's reclaim our time and prioritize our health and well-being in the face of ever-present screens.



Read of the Month



Read of the Month

Is India Achieving its Potential? Karthik Muralitharan's book **"Accelerating India's Development"** answers this question and points out that the crucial barrier to fostering development is a lack of **"State Capacity"**. Karthik Muralidharan is an Indian economist who currently serves as a professor of economics at the University of California, San Diego, where he also holds the Tata Chancellor's Endowed Chair in Economics.

India is currently growing at 8.4%, and over the next half-decade, it is expected to expand at 6.5% a year, which would make it the world's fastest-growing economy. But are these numbers that impressive at all? China, Japan, and South Korea all expanded at 10% or so a year during their periods of rapid growth. Part of the reason for India's less impressive figure is a slowdown in globalization. This article explores the answers to these questions, which are enriched by Karthik's discussions and viewpoints on the topic.

The full length of the article can be accessed at the following link:

<https://pmic.pk/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/scan-doc.pdf>

