

Terrafina
Microfinance



TERRAFINA
MICROFINANCE

TERRAFINA MICROFINANCE BECOMES ICCO TERRAFINA MICROFINANCE

Utrecht, April 2015: After almost ten years of existence, last year the moment had come to reflect on Terrafina Microfinance's future and position in the microfinance sector in a changing context. We decided to reposition ourselves by increasing our focus on agricultural microfinance and moving closer to ICCO Cooperation. As a consequence we say today goodbye to our brand "Terrafina Microfinance" and welcome our new name and logo "ICCO Terrafina Microfinance".

In 2005 Terrafina Microfinance was founded by ICCO, Oikocredit and Rabobank Foundation as a consortium with the aim to increase the availability of professional microfinance services adapted to the needs of people in rural Africa. In the ten years of its existence Terrafina Microfinance has built a strong track record. Since its inception it has supported over 85 microfinance institutions in Africa by providing a combination of technical assistance, grants, seed capital, as well as loans and guarantees through its consortium partners and local banks. Since the start the program was fully funded by the consortium partners, but as of 2016 this core funding will come to an end. We trust that with ICCO Terrafina Microfinance we can build on this strong track record, further diversify our partnerships, and attract funding from other sources.

Our activities and specialized expertise are brought under management of ICCO. The field activities continue to be carried out by microfinance professionals, working from ICCO's regional offices. They team up increasingly with other ICCO experts, in fields like agriculture, food security and value chains. The microfinance expert team in the Netherlands will continue to support the microfinance activities in Africa. They are based at ICCO's consultancy company Fair & Sustainable Advisory Services. This way their knowledge and expertise can be used for broader purposes outside ICCO Terrafina Microfinance as well. Oikocredit and Rabobank Foundation remain preferred suppliers of loans to MFI partners of ICCO Terrafina Microfinance. Like ICCO Investments they can also finance SMEs and producer organizations in the value-chain.

ICCO, Oikocredit and Rabobank Foundation are front-runners and have strong ambitions in the field of financing agriculture. In the wake of high demand by MFIs and other actors in the sector, ICCO Terrafina Microfinance will further deploy its involvement in agricultural microfinance, such as in farmer loans, warehouse receipt financing, MFI links with value-chains, and group solidarity loans. Professionalization of rural MFIs will continue on a selective base where this reinforces the expansion of sustainable agricultural microfinance. Furthermore possibilities to operate in other countries, besides the current six countries of operation, will be explored.

We invite you to read more about our activities on our website accessible through www.terrafina.nl. For suggestions and questions related to this message you can contact ICCO Terrafina Microfinance by sending an email to Fransien Wolters, portfolio coordinator, through fransien.wolters@icco-cooperation.org.



Rabobank

