



What is Microlumbia?

Microlumbia is a unique new organization dedicated to the development of the microfinance industry.

Incorporated as a non-profit and staffed by Columbia Business School students, Microlumbia provides growing microfinance institutions with pro-bono consulting services and debt capital while stimulating interest in the field among a new generation of future business leaders.

What we do

We advance our mission in three ways: through *investment*, *technical assistance*, and *education*:

Investment – The Fund makes debt investments in growing microfinance organizations worldwide to provide capital for loan portfolio expansion. Done jointly with our industry partners, students participate in the due diligence and monitoring process to find and provide loans to growing MFIs.

Technical Assistance – Through our partnership with Columbia Business School, we train and send our students overseas to provide targeted pro-bono consulting services to MFIs and bring back lessons from the field to the CBS community.

Education – In addition to directly involving students in investment and technical assistance, the organization engages the greater Columbia community by hosting seminars, bringing industry leading speakers to campus, and developing faculty involvement and the microfinance curriculum at CBS.

Where does Microlumbia stand today?

Launched in late 2007, Microlumbia has engaged a broad range of Columbia students in providing technical assistance, evaluating potential investments, and interacting with professionals from throughout the microfinance field:

- Successfully sourced, scoped, and delivered 3 consulting projects for SKS Microfinance and Sarala Women Welfare Society in India, and Key Credit in Ghana; 4 more projects to be delivered by May 2009
- Hosted speakers and panels from organizations including Developing World Markets, Credit Suisse, IFMR Trust, Nancy Barry Associates, Standard & Poor's, TIAA-CREF
- Initiated multiple due diligence processes with the goal of two disbursements by May 2009
- Raised initial funding from a variety of industry partners, alumni, and students
- Incorporated in the State of New York as a not-for-profit corporation; established a Board of Directors, formal legal council, and applied for 501(c)3 status*
- 30 students directly involved with a diverse set of backgrounds including consulting, investment banking, international development, corporate finance, marketing, private equity, investment management, and non-profit management.

Contact us

Please contact us at info@microlumbia.org!

*We would like you to know that even though Microlumbia incorporated with the State of New York Department of State as a 501(c)3 organization on January 30, 2008 that any donations to us are not yet tax deductible. On August 7, 2008 we filed a Form 1023 with the IRS for exemption from Federal income tax. This is standard protocol for new non-profit organizations. When we receive our determination letter from the IRS stating Microlumbia is exempt from Federal income taxes it will be posted on this website and donors will be able to download the letter and use it to deduct their Microlumbia donations. For further information about this process please go to www.irs.gov/eo.