

# ***Guiding Principles for Microenterprise and the Environment***

## **Microenterprise and the Environment Conference Valley Forge, Pennsylvania July 30, 2004**

### **Guiding Principles**

- + The environment is a sacred trust.
  - The earth and all its life are interconnected and sacred.
- + Addressing the human spirit is essential.
  - Environmental and human integrity are inextricably linked.
  - Improving inner human quality results in improving the environment.

### **Guiding Principles**

- + All microenterprises impact the environment.
  - Do no harm.
  - Eliminate or mitigate negative impacts.
  - Seek positive impacts.
- + Protecting the environment is an opportunity.
  - Environmental protection makes good economic sense.
- + Creating financially cost-effective solutions is vital.

### **Guiding Principles**

- + Each person is responsible.
  - Responsibility means personal ownership and action.
- + Agencies should work with local, national and international governmental agencies to promote sound environmental practices and policies.
  - Agencies should help people understand why the environment is important to their lives.
  - Donors and agencies should model good environmental behavior.

### **Guiding Principles**

- + Benefits and costs are both short and long term.
  - True costs include environmental costs.
  - Agencies should identify, account for and mitigate environmental costs.
  - Environmental benefits created should be recognized.
  - Costs of creating environmental benefits should not be borne solely by MFIs or clients.

### **Guiding Principles**

- + Creating partnerships is crucial.
  - Partnership with stakeholders is the key to appropriate environmental protection in development.
- + Participation is for everyone.
- + Participation must be inclusive, equal and fair.

## Guiding Principles for Microenterprise and the Environment Signatories

Organization	Name
Afrifund	Peter Burgess
Agros International	Gregory Rake
Barnabas Ministries	Thomas B. Israel
Brackenhurst Environmental Program	John McKelvey
CEDESOL	David E. Whifield, V.
Christian Reformed Committee on World Relief	Nick Armstrong
Eastern University	Stan LeQuire
EcoVentures International	Margie Brand
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Feed the Children	Consuelo de Angel
Floresta USA	Scott Sabin
Fundacion Agros	Mario Arturo Morales
Global Environmental	James Roberts
Greenfield Community College	Thomas Simmones
Green Microfinance, LLC	Elizabeth Israel
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Save A Child...In My Name	Judith Tshibangu
Sun Ovens	Paul Munsen
Trickle Up	Mildred Robbins Leet
World Neighbors	Roland Bunch
World View Nepal	Usha Nepal
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World Hope International	Jo Anne Lyon
World Neighbors	Roland Bunch
World Relief	Ken Graber
World Relief	Stephen Good
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If you would like to be a signatory, please contact Green Microfinance at [info@greenmicrofinance.org](mailto:info@greenmicrofinance.org). Thank you.