



Finanzgruppe

Sparkassenstiftung für internationale Kooperation

New stamp issued in honour of the 25th anniversary of CARD in the Philippines

CARD (Center for Agricultural and Rural Development) is one of Sparkassenstiftung's oldest partner institutions – with cooperation activities dating back to 1997. On the occasion of CARD's 25th anniversary, the Philippine postal services have now issued a special stamp.

Today, CARD consists of a group of intertwined (microfinance) institutions. The heart of CARD group is the non-profit organisation CARD NGO. Furthermore, the group is complemented by CARD Rural Bank, the (microfinance) insurance companies CARD MBA and CAMIA, a training institution (CMDI), a subsidiary to support the group's information technology (CMIT), as well as a bank for small and medium-sized enterprises (CARD SME Bank) and a consulting unit for female customers (CARD BDFSJ). All these institutions support each other and their customers; that is why CARD named the group "Mutually Reinforcing Institutions" (MRI).

From 1997 through to 2004 CARD NGO was successfully supported by Sparkassenstiftung in cooperation with Sparkasse Essen in its efforts to found CARD Rural Bank and expand its microfinance operations within the scope of a project promoted by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). From this time on, the good relations between all three institutions have never ceased. Since 2005 Sparkassenstiftung, Sparkasse Essen and CARD work together in projects in Indochina with CARD strongly contributing to the project work by imparting its own experience as advisor. Since 2009, CARD SME Bank, a bank catering to the needs of small and medium-sized enterprises, is supported in its institutional development. The goal is to address customers, having outgrown the stage of microfinance, and to attract new customers. The German Sparkasse Rothenburg ob der Tauber is partnering with CARD SME Bank in this project since the beginning of 2011.

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