



Sparkassenstiftung and the Association of Microfinance Institutions in Rwanda (AMIR) agreed to prolong their partnership project until the end of 2012

On the occasion of their first meeting, AMIR's new General Secretary, Mrs. Rita Ngarambe, and Sparkassenstiftung's Managing Director, Mr. Niclaus Bergmann, signed the project agreement on the first main project phase of the cooperation, which started at the end of 2008.

At the same time, two experts of Sparkassenstiftung carried out two business management games for small and medium-sized enterprises in Kigali. Within the scope of these computer-based simulation games, business decisions were illustrated on the example of an orange juice store. From the purchase of goods, investments in a refrigerator for example, preparation of year-end accounts to the reaction to unexpected events, the tasks of a typical micro-enterprise were simulated. With respect to methods and contents, the business management games are a practice-oriented and interactive education offer for micro and small entrepreneurs.

The partnership project with AMIR will have a special focus on education and consultancy offers for the association's member institutions. To this end, the project aims at expanding the range of training courses and accompanying the establishment of a faculty. Sparkassenstiftung's successful approach of attracting specialists from highly efficient microfinance institutions is to be further pursued. In addition, AMIR's ability to offer educational services on a sustainable basis is to be strengthened. This includes the economic stability of the association, which is executing training measures on a cost-covering basis, as well as the creation of know-how to prepare contents and organisation of educational offers and execute them.

Again, the Sparkassenverband Rheinland-Pfalz (Rhineland-Palatinate Savings Banks Association) acts as German project partner and will continue its commitment to providing technical support to the consultancy project.

The project is financially supported by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Contact Partners:

Ms. Christina Heuft / Mr. Stefan Henkelmann
Sparkassenstiftung für internationale Kooperation
Simrockstraße 4
53113 Bonn
Germany

Tel.: +49 228 9703-618 / -625

Fax: +49 228 9703-630