

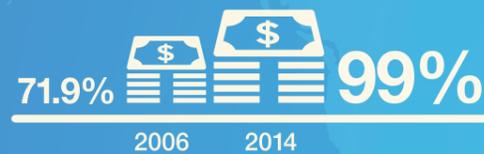
FINANCIAL INCLUSION

THE GLOBAL LANDSCAPE OF PROGRESS

Financial inclusion is expanding around the world, transforming the lives of widely diverse populations. From market women in Kenya and small farmers in India, shopkeepers in China and villagers in the remote Colombian mountains, millions are gaining access to the financial tools and services they need to stabilize their lives, take advantage of opportunities, and plan for the future. The examples highlighted here offer a snapshot of innovation and progress in just a few countries, but effective approaches are increasingly being implemented around the globe. (All sources can be found on page 28.)

COLOMBIA

Reaching 99% with agent networks



Agent banking provides access to financial services in areas without bricks-and-mortar banks. When agent networks were expanded to facilitate government payments to the poor, municipalities with access to financial services increased from 71.9% in 2006 to 99% in 2014.¹

BRAZIL

Learning to save



A financial education program for high school students resulted in a significant 9% increase in savings along with improved financial planning and knowledge. Parents of students also showed better financial knowledge, savings, and spending behavior.²

SOUTH AFRICA

Changing the rules to expand inclusion



The population with bank accounts rose to 75% in 2013, up from 46% in 2004, after regulators relaxed address verification requirements for accounts with small balances and transaction values.³

INDIA

Limiting risk with crop insurance



Crop insurance helps farmers focus on yields rather than risk. In India, farmers with rain-indexed crop insurance were 12% more likely to plant higher-return but higher-risk cash crops than those without insurance.⁴

CHINA

Extending credit to small businesses



Lending to small and medium-sized enterprises increased more than 30% between 2006 and 2011 when banking regulations were updated to facilitate the use of movable property such as livestock and equipment as collateral.⁵

MALAYSIA

Using data to reach the last mile



Malaysia has made effective use of data to expand financial services to customers that are hardest to reach. By 2011, 92% of the population had gained access to the banking system, bringing the central bank close to its 95% target for 2014.⁷

KENYA

Strengthening women's investments



When market women in rural Kenya received access to basic savings accounts, they expanded investments in their businesses by up to 56%, increased their private expenditures by 37%, and were able to save more.⁶