

EIN #: 73-1502797

Cause 5 Round 2 – General Information

Grameen Foundation’s mission is to empower the world's poorest people to lift themselves out of poverty through access to financial services and information.

Staff Info:

80 paid full-time staff divided between Seattle and DC offices

25 volunteers

**Organization Relationships**

Grameen Foundation (GF) maintains robust relationships with other microfinance networks through industry associations such as SEEP. Our programs are often “open-sourced” to enable the industry to take advantage of new tools we develop. For example, through our publication series, we share new strategies for making microfinance work better. Last year, we published the Village Phone Replication Manual which is available for free download from the GF site. It is a guide for setting up the Village Phone Program successfully in a new environment.

We also intend to open source our Progress out of Poverty Index (PPI). The PPI is a tool which measures the poverty level of a new microfinance client. The PPI tracks the poverty level of that client over time. The tool allows microfinance institutions (MFIs) to understand if they are reaching their target market, better determine their clients’ needs, which programs are most effective, how quickly clients leave poverty, and what helps them to move out of poverty faster. We are building PPIs for all of the markets where our partners operate. Once a PPI is built for a market, it is intended for the public good and the Grameen Foundation's "open sourcing" makes it available to all who wish to use it. Our collaboration with other key stakeholders within the microfinance industry (CGAP, Microcredit Summit, Freedom from Hunger, RESULTS and more) will ensure that the PPI is available for the greatest number of MFIs that wish to better meet the needs of the poorest members of the communities they serve.

Tools such as the PPI provide unique services to the industry. Grameen Foundation works to identify barriers that prevent microfinance from reaching global scale, then creates solutions for those challenges.