



ENHANCING the MICROFINANCE INDUSTRY'S **CODE OF ETHICS**

Implementation, Impact, and Network-wide Reflections

PRESENTED BY:

MS. DIVINA GRACIA C. SANTOS | ASKI GROUP JULY 30, 2025 | CENTURY PARK HOTEL, MANILA

ASKI AT A GLANCE

Established in 1987

Roots in the EDSA People **Power Revolution** A microfinance and development organization



Vision

A global development organization committed to holistic transformation





Mission

Promote socio-economic development through clientfocused, financial and nonfinancial services anchored on Christian principles.



Human Capital as of June 2025



816

Scope of Services

Covering 13 provinces with 113, 817 clients as of June 2025





CORE ETHICAL PRINCIPLES OF ASKI

These are the foundation for ethical decision-making and the organization's social mission



IMPLEMENTATION AT THE CLIENT LEVEL

ASKI ENSURES ETHICAL CONDUCT THROUGH:

1. COMMITMENT TO CLIENTS

During calamities, ASKI prioritizes relief and recovery support for affected clients, even suspending penalties

2. CULTURAL COMPETENCE & DIVERSITY

Staff undergo training in terms of appropriate dealing with indigenous clients, ensuring respectful communication.



ASKI ENSURES ETHICAL CONDUCT THROUGH:

3. INFORMED CONSENT

Before releasing loans, clients are clearly informed of interest rates, terms, and consequences of default—using local language when needed.

4. AVOIDANCE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

A staff member with relatives applying for a loan must recuse themselves from the evaluation process.

5. CONFIDENTIALITY

Financial and personal information of clients is stored securely and only shared with explicit permission or legal necessity with the help of our Data Privacy Officer.

IMPLEMENTATION WITH EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS

ASKI maintains ethical relations with funders, partners, and competitors through:



CHALLENGES ADDRESSABLE AT THE NETWORK (MCPI) LEVEL







Coordinated training on ethics in digital engagement

Cross-institutional learning from ethical dilemmas and resolutions



WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED?

Ethical conduct is essential for trust-building across clients and partners



Implementing values in day-to-day practice ensures consistency

2

Ethical dilemmas require continuous education and reflection



Technology introduces new challenges in confidentiality and client interaction—must be navigated cautiously



MOVING FORWARD



CONCLUSION:



ASKI'S CODE OF ETHICS IS A LIVING
DOCUMENT THAT SHAPES HOW EMPLOYEES
INTERACT WITH CLIENTS, COWORKERS, AND
SOCIETY. ITS COMMITMENT TO VALUESDRIVEN SERVICE IS CENTRAL TO ITS
IDENTITY AND MISSION

