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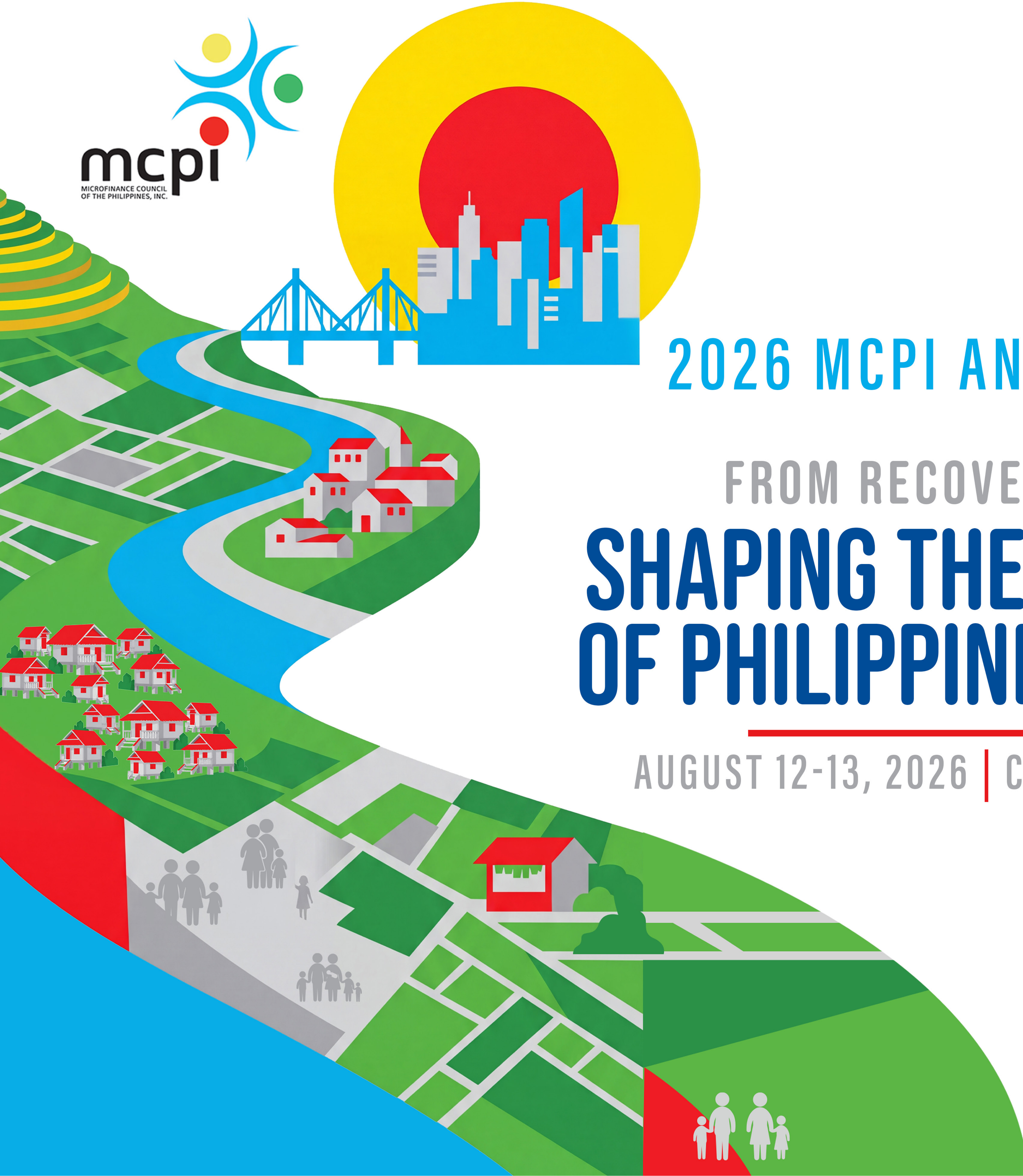

2026 MCPI ANNUAL CONFERENCE

FROM RECOVERY TO RESILIENCE:

SHAPING THE NEXT CHAPTER OF PHILIPPINE MICROFINANCE

AUGUST 12-13, 2026 | CENTURY PARK HOTEL, MANILA

ORGANIZED BY:

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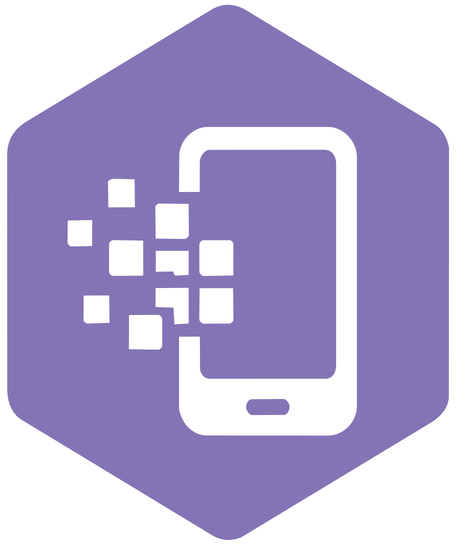
About the Conference

The MCPI Annual Conference is the premier gathering of the microfinance community in the Philippines that brings together practitioners and key stakeholders to discuss important developments and relevant issues affecting the microfinance industry. This year, the conference carries the theme ***From Recovery to Resilience: Shaping the Next Chapter of Philippine Microfinance.*** The conference will convene microfinance leaders, policymakers, and development practitioners to discuss the role of microfinance in building resilient communities and explore how microfinance institutions in the Philippines can be better equipped to respond to risks, improve financial health of clients and their households, and drive sustainable growth.

Session Tracks

Financial Health and Resilience



Digitalization

MFI Exchange

Pre-Conference Events

11 August 2026, Tuesday

[9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.]

Housing Microfinance Forum: Expanding Affordable Housing and Sustainable Settlements in the Philippines
In partnership with Habitat for Humanity International

Venue: Kachina Room

[1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.]

MCPI Annual General Meeting of Members
(For MCPI Members only, lunch to be served at 12 noon)

Venue: Badjao Room

DAY 1

12 August 2026, Wednesday

[8.00 a.m. – 9.00 a.m.]

Registration

[9.00 a.m. – 10.00 a.m.]

Opening Plenary

National Anthem

Invocation

Welcome Remarks
Eduardo C. Jimenez
President, Kabalikat para sa Maunlad na Buhay, Inc.
Chairperson, Microfinance Council of the Philippines, Inc.

Keynote Message
Dr. Eli M. Remolona, Jr.
Governor, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas

Oath-taking of the MCPI Board of Trustees, 2026 – 2027

[10.00 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.]

Coffee Break

DAY 1

[10.30 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.]

Plenary Session 1: Recover, Adapt, and Thrive – Lessons from the Field

Microfinance institutions in the Philippines have demonstrated resilience over the past three decades but they continue to face various challenges such as economic crises, natural disasters, public health crises, cybersecurity and digital risks, governance and leadership crises, and mission drift risk. This plenary session will bring together leaders from MFIs to highlight their journey in navigating these challenges and embracing change. Through actual experiences, speakers will share the strategies they adopted that enabled their institutions to recover, adapt, and emerge stronger.

Dr. Jaime Aristotle Alip, Founder and Chairman Emeritus, CARD MRI
Jonar Dorado, Chief Operating Officer, RAFI Microfinance, Inc.
Mercedes Faustino, President and CEO, Kasanyangan Microfinance Foundation, Inc.
Rafael Lopa, President and CEO, ASA Philippines Foundation, Inc.
Facilitator: **Pia Roman Tayag,** Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas

[12.00 p.m. – 1.00 p.m.] Lunch Break

[1.00 p.m. – 1.45 p.m.]

Ugnayan Session

Building Resilience to Climate Change: Calamity Microinsurance

Justin Arcenas, CEO and President, CashKo Insurance Brokerage Corporation

Humanizing MicroTech: High-Touch Service in a Digital World

Prisca Santillan, Segment Marketing Lead for Large Enterprises, Globe Business

Building Financially Resilient Communities, Together

Paolo Napoco, Key Accounts Manager, Palawan for Business - Palawan Group of Companies

DAY 1

[1.45 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.]

Plenary Session 2: Building Financial Health and Resilience in Philippine Microfinance – Insights from Key Stakeholders

A resilient microfinance industry requires an enabling regulatory environment that promotes financial inclusion and financial health of clients. As Philippine microfinance continues to evolve because of various risks and changing client preferences, effective coordination with government institutions play a key role in shaping policies that strengthen the microfinance industry's long-term growth and sustainability. In this session, representatives from two regulatory agencies and a government financial institution will discuss key regulatory priorities and collaborative efforts that will sustain a more resilient microfinance industry, while ensuring that microfinance institutions remain focused on serving poor and low-income households.

Bernadette Romulo-Puyat, Deputy Governor, Regional Operations and Advocacy Sector, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas
Atty. Charina De Vera-Yap, Managing Director, Financial Inclusion and Consumer Empowerment Sub-Sector, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas
Ryzpah Capicio, Assistant Director, Corporate Governance and Finance Department, Securities and Exchange Commission
Rebecca Ancanan, South Luzon Group Head, Small Business Corporation
Facilitator: **Eduardo Jimenez,** Microfinance Council of the Philippines, Inc.

[3.00 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.] Coffee Break

[3.30 p.m. – 5.00 p.m.]

Breakout Sessions

Sustainable Risk Management Solutions for Financial Institutions

Venue: Kachina Room

As financial institutions operate in increasingly complex and risk-prone environments, integrated risk management is essential to ensuring institutional resilience and long-term sustainability. In this session, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas will present the Sustainability Agenda and Sustainable Finance Framework for financial institutions and discuss emerging risk mitigation and resilience tools, including innovations such as parametric insurance for managing climate risks. OnePuhunan and Kasagana-Ka Credit and Savings Cooperative will share their experiences in strengthening risk management through the integration of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles and sound credit risk analysis to support better decision-making, strengthen governance and internal controls, and promote institutional accountability.

Ellen Joyce Suficiencia, Director, Strategy, Innovation and Sustainability, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas
Dominic Fajardo, Chief Risk Officer, CreditAccess Philippines Financing Company
Gerard Timbol, Internal Audit Manager, Kasagana-ka Credit and Savings Cooperative
Facilitator: **Lalaine Joyas,** Consultant

DAY 1

[3.30 p.m. – 5.00 p.m.]

Breakout Sessions

Strengthening Cybersecurity and Digital Resilience in Financial Institutions

Venue: Ballroom

As financial institutions continue to expand their digital services, they also face increasing exposure to cybersecurity threats that can compromise operations, client data, and institutional trust. Building strong cybersecurity practices is therefore essential not only to protect information systems, but also to ensure business continuity and maintain the confidence of clients and stakeholders. In this session, resource speakers will discuss emerging cybersecurity risks affecting the financial sector, share practical strategies for strengthening cyber resilience, and highlight institutional experiences in fostering a culture of security. Participants will gain insights into how organizations can better prepare for, respond to, and recover from cyber threats while supporting continued digital innovation.

Bianca Isabelle Asuncion, Vice-President, Cyber Governance and Assurance Head, UnionDigital Bank
Alden Arban, Assistant Vice-President for Information Security, CARD MRI Information Technology, Inc.
Facilitator: **Patricia Calilong,** Rafael B. Buenaventura Microfinance Foundation

[3.30 p.m. – 5.00 p.m.]

Breakout Sessions

Designing Integrated Solutions for Recovery and Growth

Venue: Badjao Room

MFI Exchange - Facilitated discussion and sharing on financial and non-financial services designed for recovery and growth.

Building resilience requires more than access financial services. As microfinance institutions respond to an increasingly changing economic landscape, the integration of financial and non-financial services has become crucial in helping clients recover, adapt, and thrive. In this session, representatives from NWTF and CEVI will share their innovative products, services, and client support programs that support microentrepreneurs and their households recover from setbacks, strengthen their livelihoods, and seize new opportunities for growth.

Shiela Guanzon, General Manager for Operations, Negros Women for Tomorrow Foundation, Inc.
Maros Apostol, Executive Director, Community Economic Ventures, Inc.
Facilitator: **Marilyn Manila,** CARD MRI

DAY 2

13 August 2026, Thursday

[9.00 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.]

Plenary Session 3: The Future of Microfinance –What Will Thriving Financial Institution Look Like in 10 Years?

The microfinance landscape is changing rapidly due to various factors including increasing competition, innovations in technology, economic and climate risks, and changing client needs and preferences. Financial institutions that will survive and thrive over the next decade are those that can anticipate change and embrace innovations, while continuing to achieve their social mission. In this plenary session, representatives from IFC, ADB, and CashKo will share their perspectives on emerging trends that will reshape financial services over the next decade and strategic priorities that financial institutions should begin investing in today to thrive in the years ahead.

Bernardo Contri, Financial Institutions Group Advisory Country Anchor-Philippines, International Finance Corporation
Anshukant Taneja, Program Lead-Microfinance Program, Asian Development Bank
Justin Arcenas, President and CEO, CashKo Insurance Brokerage Corporation
Facilitator: **Dr. Ma. Piedad Geron,** Consultant

[10.30 a.m. – 10.50 a.m.]

Ugnayan Session

The Resilient MFI Runs on Modern Rails
James To, Chief Commercial Officer and President, Nextbank

The Technology Excuse Is Dead – Now It Comes Down to People
Sander van der Heijden, CEO & Co-founder, Musoni

[10.50 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.] Coffee Break

[11.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.]

Breakout Sessions

Enhancing Client Protection through Use of Credit Information

Venue: Kachina Room

The use of credit information is a key enabler of client protection and responsible finance. This session brings together key stakeholders to share insights, solutions, and practical approaches to leveraging credit information for better lending decisions and stronger client protection. Speakers will discuss the role of the credit information ecosystem across the customer lifecycle, highlighting current initiatives, implementation challenges, and recommendations for preventing over-indebtedness, improving portfolio quality, promoting responsible lending, and strengthening trust between financial institutions and their clients.

Atty. Ben Baltazar, President and CEO, Credit Information Corporation
Marvin Lorilla, Senior Manager, Regional Sales, CRIF Corporation
Lorna Delgado, President, Microfinance Information Data Sharing, Inc.
Facilitator: **Peter Montalban,** Taytay Sa Kauswagan, Inc.

[11.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.]

Breakout Sessions

Inclusive Digital Transformation

Venue: Ballroom

Digital transformation has become a strategic priority for MFIs seeking to improve operational efficiency, strengthen risk management, expand financial inclusion, and enhance client experience. However, successful transformation requires more than adopting new technologies—it demands a clear understanding of client needs, strong leadership, organizational readiness, and well-designed processes that translate digital investments into meaningful outcomes. This session explores how MFIs can build digital strategies that deliver real value for both clients and institutions. Traxion Pay will share practical approaches for designing client-centered digital initiatives that improve operational performance and client outcomes. MicroSave Consulting will discuss the role of digitalization in strengthening institutional resilience and present technology-powered solutions for climate risk mitigation. ASKI Microfinance will then share its digital transformation journey, highlighting key opportunities, challenges, and lessons learned for organizations at different stages of digital maturity.

Dennis Peña, CEO, Traxion Pay, Inc.
Rajarshi Dutta Barua, Associate Partner, MicroSave Consulting
Divina Gracia Santos, VP for Shared Services/Operation, ASKI Management Group
Facilitator: **Allan Sicat,** Microfinance Council of the Philippines, Inc.

DAY 2

[11.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.]

Breakout Sessions

Balancing Responsible Growth and Financial Sustainability

Venue: Badjao Room

MFI Exchange - Facilitated discussion and sharing on balancing portfolio growth, client protection and social performance, operational efficiency, and long-term financial viability.

As financial institutions pursue growth and expand their outreach, they must also ensure that their operations remain financially sustainable while staying true to their social mission. Achieving this balance requires sound governance, strategic decision-making, prudent risk management, and continuous innovation in products and services. In this session, representatives from financial institutions will share how they navigate the challenges of pursuing responsible growth while maintaining financial sustainability. Through practical experiences and facilitated discussion, participants will explore strategies for strengthening institutional resilience, improving operational performance, and delivering lasting value to the communities they serve.

Marilou Dimayuga, Finance Manager, Ahon Sa Hirap, Inc.
Ailyne Lim, Vice-President for Operations, RAFI Microfinance, Inc.
Facilitator: **Jane Manucdoc,** ASKI Microfinance

[12.30 p.m. – 1.30 p.m.] Lunch Break

[1.30 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.]

Breakout Sessions

Building Resilient Leadership Models – Co-organized by BagoSphere

Venue: Kachina Room

As microfinance institutions navigate organizational change and generational leadership transitions, building resilient leadership has become essential for sustaining long-term institutional performance. Developing resilience requires strengthening human capability across the entire leadership pipeline – from frontline staff to senior management – rather than focusing solely on top leadership. In this facilitated sharing session, representatives from financial institutions will present their respective leadership development journeys, demonstrating how different approaches can address varying institutional needs and priorities. Through guided discussion and practical examples, participants will gain insights into building leadership capacity at different levels of the organization, reflect on the strengths and gaps within their own leadership pipeline, and identify practical strategies and tools that can support the development of resilient leaders in their institutions.

Ellwyn Tan, Head of Business Development and Co-founder, BagoSphere
Joseph Quililan, Training Manager, SEDP-Simbag sa Pag-asenso, Inc.
Raymond Serios, Director for Strategic Projects and Administration,
Negros Women for Tomorrow Foundation, Inc.
Facilitator: **BagoSphere**

DAY 2

[1.30 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.]

Breakout Sessions

Unlocking the Potential of Artificial Intelligence

Venue: Ballroom

Based on the 2025 Philippine Artificial Intelligence (AI) Report, 92% of surveyed organizations have begun adopting AI, primarily through pilot initiatives and small-scale implementations. While AI adoption in the country remains at an early stage, it is increasingly recognized as a practical business tool that can improve operational efficiency, strengthen client services, and drive innovation and product development. This session will provide a foundational understanding of AI, including its key concepts, current applications, and growing role in transforming organizations. It will also explore AI opportunities, key considerations, and practical approaches that can help financial institutions build AI readiness and prepare for an evolving digital financial landscape.

Jed Adao, Program Manager, TechSoup Asia-Pacific
Arjay Paul Dequito, AI Enterprise Knowledge Specialist/AI Project Manager, CARD MRI
Facilitator: **Jun Jay Perez,** Microinsurance MBA Association of the Philippines, Inc.

[1.30 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.]

Breakout Sessions

Empowering Communities through Clean Energy Solutions

Venue: Badjao Room

As communities face increasing climate risks and rising costs, innovative partnerships are becoming essential to building resilient and inclusive economies. MFIs play a vital role in expanding access to solutions that improve household well-being, strengthen livelihoods, and promote sustainable development. Representatives from Hybrid Social Solutions, Inc. and Pascal Resources Energy, Inc. will present clean energy products and services, including solar home appliances, productive-use technologies, and clean cooking solutions that make renewable energy more accessible and affordable.

Jaime Ayala, Founder and CEO, Hybrid Social Solutions, Inc.
Reynaldo David, Business Development Operations and Strategic Partnerships Head, Pascal Resources Energy, Inc.
Facilitator: **Jesila Ledesma,** Consultant

[3.00 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.] Coffee Break

DAY 2

[3.30 p.m. – 5.00 p.m.]

Closing Plenary

Closing Message
Fr. Rex Paul Arjona
President and CEO, SEDP-Simbag sa Pag-asenso, Inc.
Trustee, Microfinance Council of the Philippines, Inc.

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