Understanding the Microfinance Tools for Farmers under “Agriculture Development Project in Swat - IAO/PAK”

Institute of Rural Management, the largest training institute in the non for profit sector, is conducting a five days Micro Finance Training for the members of Farmer Services Centers, VIPs from the Grower Association and Agricultural Officers from the AED Swat.

**Training Objectives:**
The training supported the participants to understand the concept of micro-finance and rural micro credit tools to utilize and manage the rotatory funds which leaded them to reduce poverty and improve their standard of living.

**Training Methodology**
The training imparted in a highly participatory manner with full participation of the trainees throughout the event. The training methodology involved a mix of methods, including slides, case studies, applications of skills to actual projects, and group work, participants reviewed their existing monitoring and reporting formats and adapted them to methods learnt in the workshop. In teams, participants implemented some team projects and evaluated them for efficiency and effectiveness. Participants gained practical knowledge about the application of relevant concepts and methods through task oriented exercises.

**Training Contents**
- **Introduction to Microfinance and Micro Credit; concept and tools**
  - Basic Concept and terminologies in Micro-Credit
  - Concept of Saving
  - Internal Lending Techniques and eliminating the roles of money lenders
  - Village Banking/ Rotatory Fund
    - How to establish the micro-credit rotatory fund
    - How to calculate service charges
    - Social and technical appraisal for Micro-Credit
- **Money lending Phenomenon and Risk Management**
  - Introduction to Money lending phenomenon in rural areas
  - Fund Raising and Management techniques
  - Credit Disbursement Procedure
  - Risk Management in a Micro credit Rotatory fund
  - Exercises to fill formats used for social and Technical Appraisal

**Access to Micro-finance Institutes at District Level and MF Products**
- Discussion on Bank Terminologies and Agriculture related Bank Products
- Bank Customer Education on agriculture packages and ceilings
- How to develop linkages with MFIs and other institutes.
- Challenges and Issues
- Introduction to Micro- Insurance
- Micro- Credit Book keeping and financial Management
- Credit Management issues and possible solutions
- Brief Introduction to Role of MIS in Micro-Credit Management
- Need and Importance of Record keeping

**Training Venue**
PTDC Hotel Mingora –Swat, KPK

**Training Date**
April 1-5, 2013

**Target Group**
Selected Members of Farmer Service Centers, VIPs from the Grower Association and Agricultural Officers from the AED from District Swat