

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MARCH 14, 2017

Insurance supervisors, policymakers and industry gather to discuss resilience of smallholder farmers

14th March 2017, Singapore: The 9th Consultative Forum (CF9) on “**Exploring challenges in scaling up insurance as a disaster resilience strategy for smallholder farmers**” kicks off today at the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Co-organised by the International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS), the Microinsurance Network and the Access to insurance Initiative (A2ii), the event will bring together over 50 high-ranking representatives from the public sector, supervisory authorities and the insurance industry.

“The majority of IAIS Member countries are developing and emerging economies, many of which rely substantially on agriculture. Policymakers and supervisors from these jurisdictions, including those from Asia, recognise the potential of insurance to reduce the vulnerabilities faced by farmers. This Forum is thus a timely dialogue and the IAIS is very happy to be able to support it”, states Yoshihiro Kawai, Secretary General of the global insurance standard-setting body IAIS.

“Agricultural index-based insurance has shown promising developments for smallholder farmers so far. In addition to helping farmers manage day-to-day production risks, it also contributes to national disaster resilience by providing financial protection to a vulnerable community that often forms a large part of developing country populations. However, recent discussions among regional policymakers have revealed challenges in scaling up index insurance in a sustainable way”, explains Annette Houtekamer-van Dam, Microinsurance Expert at the Microinsurance Network. The Forum will discuss these challenges, while highlighting how three equally critical stakeholders – insurance supervisors, policymakers and the industry – can cooperate and align their respective roles in addressing them.

The half-day Consultative Forum will take place two days before the 12th Annual Conference of the Asian Forum of Insurance Regulators. Highlights of the CF9 include a panel discussion and a workshop, which will then be followed by a field visit the next morning to offices of Lloyd’s in Singapore. “We are really looking forward to the discussions and insights that will come out of this 9th Consultative Forum. We hope it will inspire policymakers, supervisors and the industry to take collective action in making a real difference in the lives of smallholder farmers”, adds Hannah Grant, Head of the Secretariat at the Access to Insurance Initiative (A2ii), a global initiative working to promote access to responsible, inclusive insurance.

- end of press release-

Media Contacts

Hui Chiew, A2ii, Asia Regional Coordinator, hui.chiew@giz.de

Annalisa Bianchessi, Microinsurance Network, Senior Communications Manager, abianchessi@microinsurancenet.org

Stephen Hogge, International Association of Insurance Supervisors, Senior Policy Advisor for Communications, stephen.hogge@bis.org

Additional information

Conference website: [at this link](#)

Twitter: Follow **#9thCF** @A2ii_org @NetworkFlash #IAIS
#agriinsurance #indexinsurance #disaster #resilience #microinsurance

Consultative Forum organising partners

International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS)

The International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS) is a voluntary membership organization of insurance supervisors and regulators from more than 200 jurisdictions. The mission of the IAIS is to promote effective and globally consistent supervision of the insurance industry in order to develop and maintain fair, safe and stable insurance markets for the benefit and protection of policyholders and to contribute to global financial stability.

www.iaisweb.org

Access to Insurance Initiative (A2ii)

The A2ii is a unique global partnership working to promote inclusive insurance for all by enhancing regulatory and supervisory capacity, growing financial inclusion and advancing insurance markets.

It is the implementation arm of the IAIS on inclusive insurance. A2ii generates and disseminates knowledge, builds capacity, contributes to IAIS standard-setting, promotes learning and dialogues, supports regional and country implementation and gets involved in global advocacy processes.

www.access-to-insurance.org

Microinsurance Network

The Microinsurance Network is the international multi-stakeholder platform for microinsurance experts to work together and focus on key areas of development in the sector. Its mission is to promote the development and delivery of effective insurance services for unserved people by encouraging shared learning and facilitating knowledge generation and dissemination.

www.microinsurancenetork.org