



**100 women in
hedge funds®**

Microfinance - an alternative asset class with a conscience?

April 23, 2008 at 6:30 PM
Geneva

Robert Annibale, Global Director of Microfinance at Citi, Jack Lowe, CEO of BlueOrchard Finance S.A., and Arnaud Ventura, co-founder of PlaNet Finance, will discuss how Microfinance delivers financial solutions to the disadvantaged, strengthens the role of women in the developing world and represents an exciting investment opportunity.

Participants

Robert Annibale, Citi Microfinance
Jack Lowe, BlueOrchard Finance S.A.
Arnaud Ventura, PlaNet Finance

Event Details

Date: April 23, 2008

Time: 6 PM Registration.

We will begin *promptly* at 6:30 PM; please arrive early.

Networking and canapés following session

Host: Fortis

Location: Swissotel Metropole

Quai du General Guisan 34, **Geneva**, 1211, Switzerland

RSVP: http://www.100womeninhedgefunds.org/pages/event_registration.php

This event is NOT FOR ATTRIBUTION.

Space is limited. No walk-ins will be permitted.

Biographies

Robert Annibale, Global Director, Citi Microfinance

Bob Annibale is Global Director of Citi Microfinance. He leads Citi's commercial relationships with microfinance institutions, on a multi-business and multi-product basis, providing financing and product partnerships to institutions that serve the poor and the unbanked.

He joined Citibank in 1982. After a first assignment in Athens, he held a number of senior treasury, risk and corporate positions in Citigroup in Bahrain, Kenya, London and New York. Bob completed his BA degrees in History and Political Science at Vassar College and his Masters Degree in African Studies (History) at the University of London, School of Oriental and African Studies.

Bob serves on a number of external boards and councils, including the Board of Advisors for the United Nations Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor, the University of London, Institute of Commonwealth Studies and the University of Oxford's St. Anthony's College (Centre for the Study of African Economies).

He represents Citi on the Board of the Microfinance Information Exchange, the Council of Microfinance Equity Funds, the SEEP Network, the Microfinance Network and the Executive Committee of CGAP (World Bank).

Jack Lowe, Chief Executive Officer, BlueOrchard Finance S.A.

Jack Lowe is Chief Executive Officer of Blue Orchard, a firm with \$850 million under management, which develops and manages funds that invest in microfinance institutions and which are tailored to appeal to socially conscious, market return oriented investors.

Jack's long entrepreneurial career took him to eight different countries and into a range of businesses, and then into the financial arena. His career began in the Far East, starting as a crude oil salesman covering the Far East area, followed by the opening of McKinsey & Company's first office in the Far East in Tokyo. After coming to Switzerland in 1974, he started several franchising businesses, including McDonald's in Switzerland and Midas in France. In 1986, upon the sale of these businesses, he became a partner of Montgomery Securities and managed their new international investment and brokerage activities, including venture and private equity funds outside the US. In 1997, post the sale of Montgomery to Bank of America, he acquired several medium size businesses he now controls, some of which are outside Europe in emerging markets. Mr. Lowe joined BlueOrchard in late 2004 with the mission of managing the rapid growth of the company and taking it to a new level of assets under management, as well as international recognition within the institutional investor community. Jack is Swiss and holds an MBA in finance from Stanford University, USA.

Arnaud Ventura, Co-founder, PlaNet Finance

Mr. Arnaud Ventura is currently Vice President of PlaNet Finance and CEO of MicroCred, an international investment company that aims to create a network of commercial microfinance institutions in developing countries.

Mr. Ventura co-founded and managed, as CEO, PlaNet Finance from 1998 to 2005. At PlaNet, he grew the organization from a 2 people microfinance organization to a group developing 4 main business units in over 60 countries with more than 600 staff :the Consulting and Technical Assistance Business Unit with total revenues of 15 MUSD present with local offices in 30 countries; the rating business unit, PlaNet Rating with a total revenue of about 1 MUSD a year; the Investment Services business Unit (PlaNIS) with active portfolio of about \$100M invested in more than 20 countries at the end of 2007; and MicroCred a \$25M microfinance holding investment company. Its core shareholders include PlaNet Finance, AXA Bank Belgium, SocGen, IFC, EIB and AFD.

Mr. Ventura founded MicroCred in 2005 while he was CEO of PlaNet Finance. To date investments have been done in China, Madagascar, Mexico, Senegal.

Before co-founding PlaNet Finance, Arnaud worked for BNP Paribas in France and Argentina as analyst in charge of Retail banking development and Information Technology. Prior to that Arnaud participated in the creation of two leading Internet providers in France and in Thailand.

Arnaud holds a diploma of EFREI (Ecole Française d'Electronique et d'Informatique) in Paris and is fluent in French, English and Spanish.

About 100 Women in Hedge Funds (www.100womeninhedgefunds.org)

100 Women in Hedge Funds serves over 8,000 alternative investment management investors and practitioners through unique educational, professional development and philanthropic initiatives. Since its first session in 2002, 100 Women in Hedge Funds has hosted more than 150 events globally, connected more than 150 senior women through Peer Advisory Councils and raised in excess of \$13 million for philanthropic causes in the areas of women's health, education and mentoring.