Appendix 1

Description of microinsurance providers

Activists for Social Alternatives (ASA)

Microinsurance and microfinance institutions: Evidence from India James Roth, Craig Churchill, Gabriele Ramm and Namerta, September 2005, Case Study No. 15

Founded in 1986, ASA operates in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu, providing microcredit and a variety of non-financial services to its clients. Purchase of insurance is closely linked to borrowing from the organization, which disbursed around 55,000 loans in 2004. Although it has experimented with self-insurance, ASA now works with private insurance companies that bear all the risk of its life insurance product. It is also licensed to act as an agent of an insurance company to sell different products, but has maintained its focus on servicing the needs of low-income groups. Seven employees are involved in its insurance operations full-time.

AIG Uganda

AIG Uganda: A member of the American International Group of companies Michael J. McCord, Felipe Botero and Janet S. McCord, April 2005, Case Study No. 9

AIG Uganda, a private for-profit insurance company, is part of one of the largest insurance groups in the world. It launched its first microinsurance product in 1997 in Uganda after being approached by FINCA Uganda, an MFI. It has since expanded its microinsurance operations to 26 MFIs, including one in Tanzania and one in Malawi. It offers a group personal accident product with disability, accidental death and credit life benefits. In 2003, AIG Uganda covered 1.6 million persons – borrowers of the MFIs and their family members. The company uses a partner-agent model for its microinsurance operations and all but one of the MFIs make insurance mandatory for their borrowers.

All Lanka Mutual Insurance Organization (ALMAO) ALMAO and YASIRU, Sri Lanka

Sven Enarsson and Kjell Wirén, October 2005, Case Study No. 22

All Lanka Mutual Insurance Organization (ALMAO) was licensed as a life insurance company in 2002. In 2005, ALMAO was also given a licence to provide general insurance products. The company currently offers long-term, life, accident and loan protection microinsurance products. The company is linked to the Sanasa movement, a network of credit and savings associations across Sri Lanka. ALMAO's predecessor was set up in 1991 to provide poor people with coverage for a range of risks. Since its registration as an insurance company, ALMAO's product portfolio has changed significantly and its older products are in the process of being phased out. These older products also included disability, hospitalization, death and life savings insurance covering 47,000 persons. Its new endowment products have not yet been very successful.

Association d'Entraide des Femmes (AssEF) AssEF. Benin

Olivier Louis dit Guérin, December 2005, Case Study No. 20

The Association d'Entraide des Femmes (AssEF), a microfinance cooperative, was created in 1999 to serve low-income women in the deprived areas of the capital and its surrounding areas. AssEF consists of some 130 savings and credit associations and funds. Its health insurance product had 2,300 beneficiaries at the end of 2004. Most of AssEF's clients are active in produce sales, catering, trading of staple items, sales of fabric and jewellery, and handicrafts. Its voluntary health microinsurance product is only for members and has both inpatient and outpatient benefits. The services can be accessed at contracted healthcare providers and there is a co-payment for all services. The insurance is provided in-house with technical support from the ILO-STEP programme.

Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC)

Health microinsurance: A comparative study of three examples in Bangladesh Mosleh U Ahmed, Syed Khairul Islam, Md. Abul Quashem and Nabil Ahmed, September 2005, Case Study No. 13

BRAC has offered health insurance to the rural poor since 2001, when it started the Micro Health Insurance for Poor Rural Women in Bangladesh (MHIB) project. The scheme operates in 98 sub-districts and had a member-

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ship of over 12,000 families in 2004. It offers three insurance products: an annual general package, a package targeted at pregnant women and a product targeted at school children. Healthcare is primarily provided through the parent NGO's network of community health workers, health paramedics and clinical facilities, but there are referrals to other providers when cases are beyond the capacity of the network. Policyholders must make co-payments, but the "ultra-poor" are exempt from paying the premium for the general package.

Bienestar Magisterial (BM)

Health microinsurance: A comparison of four publicly-run schemes, Latin America

Jens Holst, November 2005, Case Study No. 18

Bienestar Magisterial is a mandatory health insurance scheme in El Salvador for full-time teachers on the payroll of the Ministry of Education and their families. Created in 1969, it covered around 75,000 persons by 2003. The benefit package includes primary healthcare, specialized outpatient care, inpatient care through referral and emergency care. Healthcare is provided primary through around 100 family doctors who guide members through the system if more specialized care is needed. Physicians and facilities are contracted by the programme to provide care. Provider compensation is based on a variety of different systems such as a fee-for-diagnosis-related-group and fee-per-diem. Financing of the scheme is from direct income contributions. There are no co-payments.

CARD Mutual Benefit Association (MBA) CARD MBA, the Philippines

Michael J. McCord and Grzegorz Buczkowski, December 2004, Case Study No. 4

CARD MBA is an insurance institution that started its operations in 1999. It operates in three regions of the country and offers life insurance and integrated credit life and disability insurance, along with a provident fund for long-term savings that does not have a risk-pooling element. In 2003, around 580,000 lives were insured in the scheme. CARD MBA is one of three sister organizations the aim of which is to improve the quality of life of poor women, particularly those residing in rural areas. It provides insurance for people borrowing from the CARD Bank, for whom cover is compulsory. Sales delivery, premium collection and claims payments are outsourced to the sister organizations for a fee.

Christian Enterprise Trust Zambia (CETZAM)¹

Technical assistance for the promotion of microinsurance: The experience of Opportunity International

Richard Leftley, June 2005, Case Study No. 11

CETZAM is a microfinance NGO founded in 1995 to fight poverty through microenterprise development. It initially offered a credit life product and now also offers funeral and property insurance as well. There were around 5,000 subscribers to its microinsurance products in 2004. CETZAM acts as an agent of a private sector insurance company. The credit life and funeral insurance products are compulsory for people borrowing from the organization.

Columna

Columna, Guatemala

Carlos Herrera and Bernardo Miranda, December 2004, Case Study No. 5

Columna, an insurance company created in Guatemala in 1993, operates primarily through the country's credit unions and cooperatives to serve the self-employed in the informal economy. Its predecessor was the Guatemalan National Federation of Credits Unions' life insurance scheme, which had started in 1970. The majority of Columna's clients are from its affiliated credit unions and cooperatives, but some clients join individually or through partner NGOs. Though Columna had over 500,000 clients in 2003, and offers a range of products from motor insurance to insurance against assault, only some products can be considered microinsurance. These are: credit life and life savings plans which are mandatory for people borrowing from any of Columna's partner credit unions/cooperatives, and a voluntary life insurance product that offers benefits in the event of death or disability.

Coordination régionale de mutuelles de santé de Thiès (CRMST) Mutual health insurance, CRMST, Senegal

Klaus Fischer, Ibrahima Hathie, Issa Sissouma, September 2006, Case Study No. 24

Coordination de Thiès is an association of 39 mutual health organizations, with about 75,000 beneficiaries at the end of 2005 (up from about 70,000 the previous year), covering all pathologies offered to individuals in public health institutions. In the late 1980s, Thiès was the birthplace of the now rapidly growing movement of MHOs in West Africa that now includes

¹ CETZAM is also discussed in *Madison Insurance*, *Zambia*, Case Study Nor. 10 by Lemmy Manje.

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hundreds of schemes. The MHOs are independent risk-carrying entities, with the majority based on rural areas. The Coordination plays an important role in providing support to the MHOs, acting as intermediary between MHOs and other stakeholders, helping with the development of new MHOs and contracting health service providers. It falls under the law of associations that recognizes the form of "union régionale", which corresponds to Coordination's structure.

Delta Life

Delta Life, Bangladesh

Michael J. McCord and Craig Churchill, February 2005, Case Study No. 7

Delta Life is an insurance company founded in 1986. It started offering insurance products for high- and middle-income groups and then, taking inspiration from the Grameen Bank, it launched a voluntary microinsurance product targeted at low-income persons in the informal economy in 1988. It currently offers a range of endowment products, and had 859,000 low-income policyholders in 2002. The products offered are perceived by clients and staff more as long-term savings products than insurance. Certain occupational groups are excluded from purchase of certain products and most of its microinsurance clients live in rural areas.

La Equidad Seguros

La Equidad Seguros, Colombia

Gloria Almeyda and Francisco de Paula Jaramillo, September 2005, Case Study No. 12

La Equidad Seguros, established in Colombia in 1970, offers a variety of insurance products both for institutional and individual needs; it also targets low-income groups. It has partnered and is primarily owned by cooperatives throughout the country. Among its many products, two group products can be considered microinsurance. Both of these cover death and disability and are distributed through La Equidad Seguros' partner organizations. One of these products is only available to clients of a microfinance institution, Women's World Foundation (WWF). WWF acts as an agent, responsible for marketing, premium collection and claims processing. The other product is a similar one targeting La Equidad's partner cooperatives. There were around 30,000 microinsurance policyholders in 2004, most of whom either own informal microenterprises or are low-wage workers.

FINCA Uganda

AIG Uganda: A member of the American International Group of companies Michael J. McCord, Felipe Botero and Janet S. McCord, April 2005, Case Study No. 9

The attention surrounding the initial partnership between FINCA Uganda, formerly a microfinance NGO (now a regulated financial institution), and AIG Uganda served to launch the partner-agent model as an effective and potentially profitable way to deliver insurance to the low-income market. Although in 2003, 26 MFIs had group policies with AIG Uganda covering 1.6 lives, FINCA was the initial driver of the product design and enhancements.

Grameen Kalyan (GK)

Health microinsurance: A comparative study of three examples in Bangladesh

Mosleh U Ahmed, Syed Khairul Islam, Md. Abul Quashem and Nabil Ahmed, September 2005, Case Study No. 13

Grameen Kalyan's health insurance scheme was started in 1996. Around 58,000 families, the majority of whom were members of the Grameen Bank, purchased insurance in 2004. The scheme offers an annual product covering preventative and curative health services. Healthcare is provided through the programme's 28 clinics and community health workers in eight districts. Each clinic has a staff of around 10 employees. There are co-payments for all services except for preventative, family-planning and health education services, which are provided through community health workers.

International Cooperative and Mutual Insurance Federation (ICMIF) Lessons learnt the hard way

International Cooperative and Mutual Insurance Federation (ICMIF), January 2005, Case Study No. 6

ICMIF is an international association of insurers operating on the principles of the cooperative movement and democratic mutuality. Founded in 1922, it now has 141 members in 67 countries, comprising more than 300 insurance companies. The principal member services provided by ICMIF are reinsurance, development, market intelligence, investment, the biennial global conference and training. This case study considers the experiences of nine unnamed members (or former members) that experienced serious problems over the years. By analysing their experiences, the study creates a framework for an insurer's vulnerabilities. Although the companies cannot strictly

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speaking be called microinsurers, the lessons they learned are applicable to the extension of insurance to low-income markets.

Karuna Trust

Karuna Trust, Karnataka, India

Ralf Radermacher, Olga van Putten-Rademaker, Verena Müller, Natasha Wig and David Dror, November 2005, Case Study No. 19

Founded in 1987, Karuna Trust is a multipurpose NGO dedicated to rural development and rural health in the Indian state of Karnataka. It launched a health insurance pilot programme in 2002 to complement the public health system. Its integrated health insurance product offers benefits for transportation to a health facility, inpatient drugs and income during hospitalisation and post-surgery recovery. More than 61,000 persons were covered in 2004, although the organization experienced a significant drop the following year. The premium for the product was initially completely subsidized (by UNDP), but many of the clients were less inclined to purchase the insurance when they actually had to pay for it. The product is offered in partnership with a state-owned insurance company.

Madison Insurance

Madison Insurance, Zambia

Lemmy Manje, May 2005, Case Study No. 10

Madison Insurance started offering microinsurance products in 2000 in partnership with microfinance institutions. In 2003, there were over 30,000 subscribers to its group credit life and group funeral insurance products. The purchase of insurance policies is mandatory for people who borrow from these partner financial institutions.

MAFUCECTO

MAFUCECTO, Togo

Catherine Tremblay, Marisol Quirion, Suzanne Langlois and Frank Klutsé, October 2006, Case Study No. 25

Although initially set up in 1989 by the credit union network (FUCEC) to provide personalized life insurance products through the cooperatives in the network, MAFUCECTO initially encountered problems because the credit unions found the cover too expensive. In 2003, a desire to improve services and partner satisfaction led the network to completely reorganize MAFUCECTO and introduce new procedures and products, with funding

and technical assistance from international entities. The project goal was to set up an insurance company for the sub-region to provide common insurance products for the six credit union networks. For the moment, however, only loan-linked life insurance is offered through one network.

Malawi Union of Savings and Credit Cooperatives (MUSCCO) MUSCCO, Malawi Union of Savings and Credit Cooperatives Sven Enarsson and Kjell Wirén, March 2005, Case Study No. 8

Founded in 1980, MUSCCO is a federation that serves the needs of its member savings and credit cooperatives. At its peak in 2000, MUSCCO worked with 111 cooperatives with 66,000 members. It offers credit life and life savings microinsurance products and had 56,000 insureds in 2003. MUSCCO's credit unions target low-income groups, small farmers and government employees. Its products are exclusively for its cooperative partners' members and are also compulsory for them. Some of the insurance operations are carried out by the partner cooperatives but risks are managed in-house by the federation.

Opportunity International (OI)

Technical assistance for the promotion of microinsurance: The experience of Opportunity International

Richard Leftley, June 2005, Case Study No. 11

Opportunity International, an international NGO created in 1971, serves over 800,000 borrowers worldwide. Its mission is to provide opportunities for people in chronic poverty to transform their lives through creating jobs, encouraging small business and strengthening communities. It works with banks and MFI NGOs in 30 countries. As a result of demand from clients, the organization has provided technical assistance since 2002 to develop microinsurance products. While OI commenced its microinsurance activities in Africa, it has now spread to other parts of the world. In 2005, Opportunity's partners covered approximately 2,700,000 low-income persons. Recently, it established the "Micro Insurance Agency" as an insurance broker serving the poor.

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Pulse Holdings Ltd.

Madison Insurance, Zambia

Lemmy Manje, May 2005, Case Study No. 10

Pulse is an MFI that began in 1995 with support from CARE International to address urban poverty by providing microcredit. In 2001, it was incorporated as an independent organization, Pulse Holdings Limited. It offers two types of business loans and two emergency products. It is located in the capital and had around 2,000 clients in 2004. It offers microinsurance in partnership with Madison Insurance, but instead of earning a commission, Pulse has a profit-sharing arrangement with the insurer.

Seguro Basico de Salud (SBS)

Health microinsurance: A comparison of four publicly-run schemes, Latin America

Jens Holst, November 2005, Case Study No. 18

The Seguro Basico de Salud was a public health insurance scheme in Bolivia created in 1999. It targeted the urban and non-urban poor and the benefit package was for pregnant women, children under five years of age and people affected by some communicable diseases. Health services were provided primarily through public health facilities. Funding of the programme was tax-based with supplements for certain programmes, and there were no copayments for users. Health providers were paid by municipal governments according to a fee-for-service remuneration schedule. In 2003, the Seguro Basico de Salud merged into the Seguro Universal Materno Infantil.

Seguro Integral (SI)

Health microinsurance: A comparison of four publicly-run schemes, Latin America

Jens Holst, November 2005, Case Study No. 18

The Seguro Integral is a public health insurance scheme in Paraguay that was started in 2002. Coverage will eventually be extended to all regions and population groups, but the target group for the pilot project are women of child-bearing age and children under the age of five in the region of Caazapá. Since 2004, beneficiaries have obtained healthcare at primary providers within the public health system. There is a referral system to access secondary and tertiary level care. Funding for the programme is supposed to come from the health ministry, the district government and the municipal government, as well as from enrolees' monthly contributions. There are no co-payments.

Seguro Materno-Infantil (SMI)

Health microinsurance: A comparison of four publicly-run schemes, Latin America

Jens Holst, November 2005, Case Study No. 18

The Seguro Materno-Infantil, created in 1998, was a public health insurance scheme in Peru targeting the health needs of pregnant women, new mothers and children under the age of five years. It merged into the Seguro Integral de Salud in 2001, which serves a broader public. The Seguro Materno-Infantil was designed to fight against some of the most important causes of mortality. At its peak in 2001, the programme covered 22 health districts and there were around 350,000 beneficiaries. Healthcare services were provided by public providers (ranging from health centres to hospitals), where members were enrolled. Financing of the programme was primarily tax-based. However, at the time of enrolment, members had to pay a fee, though it was waived for a significant proportion of members. Provider payment was on a fee-for-service system with limitations on the frequency of use. There were no co-payments.

ServiPerú

ServiPerú, Perú

Máximo U. Rodríguez and Bernardo Miranda, January 2004, Case Study No. 1

As a result of changes in regulations and in the market in the early 1990s, cooperative insurer SEGUROSCOOP could no longer keep its licence. Instead, in 1994, it recreated itself as ServiPerú, an insurance broker and service provider that serves as a link between cooperatives and insurance companies. It offers an integrated health and funeral insurance product and had around 94,000 beneficiaries in 2003. There are co-payments on all covered health benefits. In addition to the integrated microinsurance product, ServiPerú offers motor insurance, life savings and credit life insurance services.

Shepherd

Microinsurance and microfinance institutions: Evidence from India James Roth, Craig Churchill, Gabriele Ramm and Namerta, September 2005, Case Study No. 15

Shepherd, an Indian NGO, was created in 1995 and operates in state of Tamil Nadu. It is a network of self-help groups and acts as facilitator or intermediary between the groups and formal institutions (such as banks). It offered three life insurance products as well as livestock, accidental death, asset and

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health insurance products and had around 15,000 beneficiaries in 2004. Following a partner-agent model, Shepherd is linked to two state insurance companies, which bear all the risk of the products.

Society for Social Services (SSS)

Health microinsurance: A comparative study of three examples in Bangladesh

Mosleh U Ahmed, Syed Khairul Islam, Md. Abul Quashem and Nabil Ahmed, September 2005, Case Study No. 13

Society for Social Services is a multipurpose NGO that provides microcredit and a range of social services. Its health insurance scheme, started in 1996, serves six sub-districts and had a membership of around 27,000 families in 2004. It offers an annual insurance product for curative health services. Enrolment in the scheme is compulsory for people borrowing from the NGO. Healthcare is provided by SSS through one urban hospital, 16 rural clinics and health workers. There are co-payments on certain services but full subsidies are possible for the "ultra-poor". Services are provided through community health workers, traditional birth attendants and qualified medical professionals who are based in the urban hospital but who travel to the clinics periodically.

Spandana

Microinsurance and microfinance institutions: Evidence from India James Roth, Craig Churchill, Gabriele Ramm and Namerta, September 2005, Case Study No. 15

Spandana is an Indian NGO formed in 1992. It operates in the municipality of Guntur, among other places, and offers microcredit, initially following the Grameen model but later developing its credit provision model. It first offered microinsurance products in 1998. In 1994, it offered an integrated insurance product covering credit life, spouse's death, and limited asset loss. Death and destruction caused by epidemics and natural disasters were excluded from coverage. The product was compulsory for people who borrowed from Spandana and had around 390,000 policyholders in 2004. Its self-insurance scheme was not regulated.

Tao Yeu May's Mutual Assistance Fund (TYM) TYM's Mutual Assistance Fund, Viet Nam

Nhu-An Tran and Tan See Yun, June 2004, Case Study No. 3

Tao Yeu May's Mutual Assistance Fund is a Grameen replication project that was launched in 1993 by Vietnamese Women's Union. It works primarily in the northern provinces. Its core business is microcredit for women and it has offered an integrated credit life, health, disability and funeral product since 1996. Around 68,000 people (borrowers and spouses) were insured with TYM in 2004. TYM's microinsurance programme, operating on a self-insurance basis, aims to provide financial support in times of crisis; however, it is not intended to cover all the expenses associated with the crisis.

Tata-AIG Life Insurance Company

TATA-AIG Life Insurance Company Ltd., India

James Roth and Vijay Athreye, September 2005, Case Study No. 14

Tata-AIG is a private-for-profit life insurance company, organized as a joint venture between a large Indian conglomerate and the American International Group. The company started microinsurance operations in 2001 to comply with Indian insurance regulations, and now offers three voluntary life insurance and savings products through partner NGOs and micro-agents. There were over 13,000 microinsurance policyholders in 2005. Tata-AIG has collaborated with over 50 NGOs and most of the selling and servicing is done through them, either directly or indirectly. In its micro-agent model, Tata-AIG obtains recommendations from NGOs on members of the community who could be good agents for microinsurance policies (micro-agents). The NGO then assists the agents with training and administrative support. The products for rural low-income persons are voluntary.

Taytay Sa Kauswagan (TSKI)

Technical assistance for the promotion of microinsurance: The experience of Opportunity International

Richard Leftley, June 2005, Case Study No. 11

Taytay Sa Kauswagan is a microfinance NGO founded in 1986. The organization currently offers a compulsory life and credit life insurance for all borrowers on behalf of a local insurance company. Around 900,000 persons were covered in 2005.

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TUW SKOK
TUW SKOK, Poland

Craig Churchill and Terry Pepler, May 2004, Case Study No. 2

TUW SKOK is the primary insurance provider of credit unions in Poland. Its predecessor was created in 1993 and TUW SKOK started operations in 1998. It offers a property product, a savings completion product, and three accidental death and disability products that can be considered microinsurance. It had around 93,000 low-income policyholders and a total membership of around 925,000 in 2003. All TUW SKOK's microinsurance products are sold as group insurance. The organization outsources many activities such as actuarial services and sales, which are done through credit unions. Additionally, the organization also offers a range of insurance products for credit unions themselves, including deposit insurance.

Union des Mutuelles de Santé de Guinée Forestière (UMSGF) L'Union des Mutuelles de Santé de Guinée Forestière, Guinea Bruno Gautier, Allan Boutbien and Bruno Galland, October 2005, Case Study No. 17

The Union des Mutuelles de Santé de Guinée Forestière is a network of mutual health organizations. Established in 1999, the network provides representation for the MHOs in dealings with their various partners. The MHOs offer health insurance products covering around 14,000 persons in 2005. The product is aimed at low-income groups in both rural and urban settings. The insurance offered by the MHOs tends to cover cost of transport to hospitals, inpatient care and even outpatient care in some packages. Covered health services are provided only at public health facilities.

Union Technique de la Mutualité Malienne (UTM) L'Union Technique de la Mutualité Malienne, Mali

Klaus Fischer, Issa Sissouma, Ibrahima Hathie, August 2006, Case Study No. 23

The Union Technique de la Mutualité Malienne (UTM), an apex body of MHOs, was created in 1998 with support from Mutualité Française. Thirty-two MHOs are affiliated to the UTM, covering approximately 40,000 persons. The insurance benefit typically covers between 60 and 75 per cent of the user fees required to gain access to services offered in public health institutions. In addition, UTM has also designed a standard health microinsurance product that it administers. The MHOs have the option of offering either the standard health insurance product or more tailored products. Each

MHO is a legally recognized as a *mutual*, a separate institution owned by its members. MHOs are the primary insurance providers and risk carriers. The UTM is registered as a second-tier mutual institution, owned by the primary level member MHOs. The UTM provides support to the MHOs, acting as intermediary between MHOs and other stakeholders, helping with the development of new MHOs, contracting health service providers and developing new products. The UTM also has a certain supervisory function over the operations of the individual MHOs.

Vimo Self-Employed Women's Association (Vimo SEWA) VimoSEWA, India

Denis Garand, October 2005, Case Study No. 16

The Self-Employed Women's Association is an Indian trade union for self-employed women founded in 1972 in the state of Gujarat. It set up a special department for insurance in 1992, VimoSEWA, which acts as an insurance broker. VimoSEWA offers a voluntary product with life, health and asset benefits covering more than 110,000 persons in 2004. The insurance product offered by VimoSEWA has undergone many changes and is now offered in partnership with two private-sector insurance companies.

Yeshasvini Trust

Yeshasvini Trust, Karnataka, India

Ralf Radermacher, Natasha Wig, Olga van Putten-Rademaker, Verena Müller and David Dror, November 2005, Case Study No. 20

Yeshasvini Co-operative Farmers Health Care Trust is a charitable trust in Karnataka. Yeshasvini's microinsurance activities were initiated in 2002 in cooperation with state authorities and cooperatives. The trust offers health insurance, covering approximately 1.45 million persons in 2004. The benefits are primarily limited to surgery, but also include outpatient care and tests in certain circumstances. The benefits, which are provided cashless to the clients, can only be accessed at certified partner hospitals. The trust outsources certain activities to third-party administrators, but manages the risk in-house. Distribution of the product is done through local cooperatives.

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Yasiru Mutual Provident Fund (Yasiru) ALMAO and YASIRU, Sri Lanka

Sven Enarsson and Kjell Wirén, October 2005, Case Study No. 22

The Yasiru Mutual Provident Fund (Yasiru) is a microinsurance provider in Sri Lanka and was registered as a special society in 2000. Yasiru was initially linked to the ACCDC, a network of community-based organizations in seven districts, but the microinsurer has now entered into partnerships with several other NGOs. Yasiru offers an integrated accident, disability, life and hospitalization microinsurance product covering around 24,000 persons in 2004. The microinsurance product is targeted at the whole family, which can choose from five different levels of coverage.

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About the authors

Mosleh Uddin Ahmed is a UK-qualified chartered accountant and an independent consultant on microinsurance and migrants' remittances. Mosleh has over 15 years' experience in microfinance in Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka. He worked with Gono-Grameen Bima of Delta Life Insurance in Bangladesh as Deputy Managing Director and as the financial controller for the Rural Employment Sector Programme (RESP) in Bangladesh, a poverty alleviation programme funded by SIDA. He is at present CEO of Microinsurance Research Centre – a "not-for-profit" organization based in the UK and Bangladesh. He is a member of the UK All Party Parliamentary Group on Microfinance, London Microfinance Club and PlanetFinance UK.

Gloria Almeyda started her international credit union (CU) career with CUNA Mutual as an intern from EAFIT University in her native country, Colombia. Later, she joined WOCCU's international technical operations and worked in Latin America, Asia and Africa. Upon her return to Colombia, she became Executive Director of EDUCONAL – the Technical Corporation of the Colombian national CU federation. She also led the microenterprise programme of Fundación para el Desarrollo Integral, and collaborated with other institutions in microenterprise-related policy, promotion and development. She is currently a Regional Coordinator for Central America/Caribbean and Mexico, at the Center for Inter-Cultural Education and Development (CIED) of Georgetown University.

Felipe Botero has worked in the insurance industry for over 20 years. As an information technology specialist, Felipe has seen the evolution of technology from the days of overnight batch-processing and mainframe computers, to today's Internet-based world of straight-through processing and customer self-service. Throughout his career with MetLife, headquartered in New York City, Felipe has supported life, health, disability and annuity systems. While attending the MBA in Finance programme at New York University, Felipe became interested in microfinance and has dedicated himself to developing a microinsurance practice within MetLife.

Grzegorz Buczkowski is president of TUW SKOK, a mutual property and casualty insurance company (since 1997), and TU SKOK Źycie SA, a life insurance company of the Polish credit union system (since 2003). He has 16 years' experience with Polish credit unions, starting as Foreign Relations Officer with Foundation for Polish Credit Unions. He spent five years as managing director at TU SKOK Benefit SA, a joint insurance operation of CUNA Mutual Group and Foundation for Polish Credit Unions. Mr Buczkowski holds a MA in English Literature from Gdansk University, Poland and an MBA from Gdansk University and Strathclyde University, Glasgow, Scotland. In 2001, he received one of the first WOCCU Young Credit Union Professional Awards.

Doubell Chamberlain heads the Access to Financial Services Practice at Genesis Analytics and holds a Masters in Economics (cum laude) from the University of Stellenbosch. Over the last five years, he has worked on numerous projects relating to developing strategies to extend financial services (including insurance) to the poor in southern Africa and the review and assessment of regulatory impacts on various components of the financial and non-financial sectors. He is currently leading a multi-country study on the impact of Anti Money Laundering/Combating the Financing of Ter-

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rorism (AML/CFT) regulations on access to financial services in developing countries as well as an IDRC study on developing the principles for regulating microinsurance.

Arup Chatterjee is Deputy Director, Insurance Regulatory And Development Authority of India and currently on deputation as an Advisor to the International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS), Switzerland. Besides an honours degree in economics, he possesses a master's in international economics and a master's in international business. His experience includes a rare blend of hardcore insurance business operations with expertise in insurance regulation and supervision. This combination has helped him gain a deep insight into development and regulation of insurance in emerging markets.

Craig Churchill joined the ILO's Social Finance Programme in 2001. Craig has microfinance experience in both developed and developing countries having previously worked for Get Ahead Foundation in South Africa, ACCION International, the MicroFinance Network and Calmeadow. In his current position, he focuses primarily on the role of financial services that the poor can use to manage risks and reduce their vulnerability, including microinsurance. He serves as Chair of the CGAP Working Group on Microinsurance and on the editorial boards of the MicroBanking Bulletin and the Journal of Microfinance. Craig has authored and edited dozens of articles, papers and monographs on various microfinance topics including microinsurance, customer loyalty, organizational development and management, governance, lending methodologies, and regulation and supervision.

Monique Cohen is President of Microfinance Opportunities, a non-profit organization founded in 2002. She is a recognized expert on the poor's use of financial services and client assessment, including market research and impact assessment in microfinance. Dr. Cohen has pioneered the introduction of financial education for poor people in developing countries. She designed and led the AIMS project at USAID in Washington, where she served as Senior Technical Advisor in the Office of Microenterprise Development, 1994–2002. She is co-author with Jennefer Sebstad of "Microfinance, risk management and poverty", and "Reducing vulnerability: The demand for microinsurance". Dr. Cohen has published extensively on microfinance and has taught at the Boulder Microfinance Training Program. Monique Cohen has a PhD from Clark University in Massachusetts.

David Dror's experience in social security dates back to the mid-1970s when he was responsible for negotiating a comprehensive pension agreement for private-sector employers in Israel and a nation-wide wage-indexation system. He also held key positions on the Council of the National Insurance Institute and served as Delegate to the International Labour Conference (Geneva). From 1981 to 2003 Dror worked for the ILO. From 1989, his work focused on applied health insurance, as practitioner and later as researcher, which included developing innovative pro-poor options for the extension of health insurance in low-income countries. The "Social Re" concept that he developed offers a new approach to sustainable community health financing. Since retiring from the ILO, and with a PhD and DBA, he has been teaching in two universities, conducting and supervising research, and overseeing the implementation of technical support to health insurance schemes for the poor in India, South Africa and elsewhere.

Iddo Dror is a doctoral candidate at the University of Geneva's Faculty of Economic and Social Sciences, where he is researching the provision of health microinsurance in developing countries. In addition to his research, Iddo is actively involved in developing management competencies for international organizations, notably through an innovative MBA programme specializing in international organizations (cf. www.iomba.ch), which he helped create and still coordinates.

Sven Enarsson (BA in economics at Stockholm University) started working in development cooperation in 1970. Has worked with projects in Africa for 15 years, as a field worker, a project leader and a regional representative of the Swedish Cooperative Centre. Employed by the Swedish Cooperative Centre from 1986 to 2003, he has worked mainly in the development of rural and urban savings and credit cooperatives in eastern and southern Africa. He has also supported cooperative banking in Kenya and has lately been involved in cooperative finance and insurance. Sven is now working as a consultant.

Klaus Fischer is a professor of finance at Laval University, Canada. His research focuses on financial institutions with special emphasis on mutual financial intermediaries, and micro finance and insurance in developing countries. He publishes in academic and professional journals presenting funda-

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mental and applied research results. Significant recent activities to note are his role as a leader of a three-year project involving researchers from South America, Africa and Asia and as principal researcher in a World Bank-sponsored team research effort, both on the subject of network organizations and the regulation and supervision of mutual financial intermediaries.

Bénédicte Fonteneau is a sociologist and senior researcher at the Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium). Her fields of research include not-for-profit organizations, microinsurance schemes, HIV/AIDS, community-based organizations, and access to healthcare and health systems. Using fundamental and applied research methods, she examines the emergence and the organizational issues of associations dealing with health-related concerns (e.g. access to healthcare, health insurance, prevention and care) and their relations with the health sector at the micro (health providers) and macro level (health authorities). She gives special emphasis to the influence of international cooperation in this context. Her research has concentrated on West Africa.

Bruno Galland is Director of Research at CIDR in the field of participatory microinsurance schemes and the performance of health services. CIDR is involved in the design, implementation and evaluation of health microinsurance programmes in various African countries. By analysing and documenting the experiences of these programmes, CIDR contributes to increasing the expertise and competence of local actors. Bruno Galland has published various practical guides and documents and has organized training with other organizations, including the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, GTZ, ILO/STEP and CGAP.

Denis Garand (FCIA, FSA) worked for nearly 20 years for a Canadian cooperative insurance company as Group Actuary, Director of Marketing and Vice-President of Group Insurance, as well as an advisor to developing cooperative insurers. Since 2001, Denis has been an independent consultant, focusing on the Canadian group insurance industry and international microinsurance programmes. Canadian assignments have included strategic reviews, capital management, training, product development, pricing, mergers, insurance company start-up and the development of the first Canadian disability incidence study. International assignments for BearingPoint, CGAP, ILO, GTZ, CCA and ICMIF have been in India, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, the Philippines, Benin, Rwanda and Barbados on all aspects of microinsurance.

Christian Jacquier (engineer and PhD) is the Coordinator of the ILO global programme "Strategies and Tools against Social Exclusion and Poverty" (www.ilo.org/step). As a specialist in the extension of social protection, Jacquier helped launch the concept of "micro-insurance" in 1999 through an article in ISSA review (Dror-Jacquier). He serves as the coordinator of the International Alliance for the Extension of Social Protection, composed of ILO, ISSA, ICMIF, AIM, ICA, IHCO and WIEGO (www.social-protection.org) and is a member of WIEGO, a global research-policy network that seeks to improve the status of the working poor, especially women, in the informal economy.

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Richard Lacasse is currently Program Director for Latin America and the Caribbean at SOCODE-VI, a Canadian NGO specializing in cooperative development in Africa, Asia and Latin America. With a master's in cooperative management, Richard Lacasse has during the past twenty years developed solid experience in planning and implementing development programmes, and partnership-building oriented towards local ownership and economic development. He has recognized expertisein cooperative organizational development, combining the needs for a solid democratic participation and governance with viable economic activities.

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Dominic Liber is a director of Quindiem Consulting and a qualified actuary with many years' experience in providing life insurance product design, risk management, and strategy to insurers, reinsurers, corporations, NGOs, microlenders, industry bodies and other consulting firms. He has been extensively involved in the development of risk solutions for the low-income markets, and the development of pricing models for a range of healthcare, disability, life and business risks including AIDS-related risks. He is the convener of the AIDS Committee of the Actuarial Society of South Africa and author of several manuals and guides on microinsurance and microfinance risk management.

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Gerry Noble (MB, DCH, DObs, DTM&H) is an Irish physician and health-financing specialist with ten years' experience in health management and systems development in sub-Saharan Africa. He founded Microcare, a health microinsurer giving low-income groups in Uganda access to quality affordable healthcare. Networking a central Oracle database with computerized clinic check-in desks and client Smart Cards, Microcare integrates on-site client identity verification and real-time

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claims processing with centralized insurance management. This prevents fraud, contains treatment costs and monitors quality of care.

Zahid Qureshi is President of International Development & Communication Services, Inc. (ID&CS). His experience includes 23 years with a group of insurance and financial services companies in North America and 12 years of insurance development in various markets for ICMIF, an international organization based in Europe that has member insurers in some 70 countries. His introduction to development work came in San Francisco as an intern at The Asia Foundation, which promotes democratic and self-help institutions. Earlier he had served as a copy editor on two daily newspapers. Zahid has master's degrees in journalism (with a major in international relations) and English literature.

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James Roth's work has focused on developing financial services for the poor. His PhD at the University of Cambridge looked at the variety and depth of financial services available to the poor in a small South African Township. His subsequent work has focused on selecting, researching and promoting innovative financial instruments and institutions. He has assisted governments and donors in developing policies conducive to an inclusive financial sector, including work on credit guarantee funds, microcredit and microinsurance. From 2000 to 2004, he worked for the Social Finance Programme of the ILO in Geneva. In 2004, he was Chief Technical Adviser on a microinsurance project in Bangalore, India financed by GTZ and the ILO. He is currently a partner in The Microinsurance Centre, a specialized consulting firm.

Stuart Rutherford has been a microfinance practitioner, researcher, writer and teacher for twenty-five years. His interest is in understanding how poor people manage their money, hence the title of his best-known work, *The poor and their money*. He has taught at the Boulder Microfinance Training Program and the Institute for Development Policy and Management at the University of Manchester, United Kingdom, where he is a Senior Visiting Fellow. He lived for many years in Bangladesh, where he was a board member of the Association for Social Advancement (ASA), and founded SafeSave, an MFI that provides highly flexible financial services to slum dwellers. He is currently researching Grameen II, Grameen Bank's recent major reworking of its products. He now lives in Japan.

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Kjell Wirén lives in Stockholm, Sweden. After receiving a bachelor's degree at the University of Uppsala, Kjell joined Folksam in 1971. At Folksam, he has mainly been working in general insurance except for four years in the Life Division. In 1985, he was appointed Product Manager of the non-life business, and in 1993 he was given full responsibility for all General Insurance at Folksam. During his time with Folksam, Kjell has also been involved as an adviser in Folksam's development work in eastern and southern Africa. Today, Kjell works as a Senior Adviser to the CEO and is also responsible for Folksam's international activities. Kjell is the author, together with Sven Enarsson, of two microinsurance case studies, in Malawi (2004) and Sri Lanka (2005).

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Note: Page numbers in italic denote tables, figures or boxes. The letter a appended to a page number denotes an appendix entry; a subscript numeral denotes a footnote. While the terms 'insurance', 'insurers', etc., refer to microinsurance unless otherwise indicated, 'microinsurance', etc., is used where necessary for added clarity.

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ILO and Munich Re Foundation, *Publishers* ISBN 978-92-2-119254-1

