

PBU invests in microfinance with a focus on women

With an investment of DKK 100 million (~15 million USD) in NMI's microfinance fund (NMI Fund IV), The Pension Fund of Early Childhood Teachers (Pædagogernes Pension) places itself strongly within the socially responsible investment arena. The investment helps give women in developing countries the opportunity to influence their own future.

With the investment of just over DKK 100 million (~15 million USD) in a microfinance fund managed by the Nordic Microfinance Initiative (NMI), Pædagogernes Pension (PBU) goes ahead in the industry and strengthens its socially responsible engagement within the company's investment profile.

- The investment has a clear link to our strategy for responsible investments, where we focus on i.a. women and equality. In this way, we strengthen the social area in PBU's investment profile and at the same time enable a good return for the benefit of our members, says PBU's CEO Sune Schackenfeldt.

The social focus is closely linked to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. The investment in microfinance contributes in particular to the objectives of Gender Equality, Reduced Inequality and No Poverty.

Microfinance with focus on women

PBU's investment in microfinance allows poor people in Asia and Africa to create a better life. Many of these are women belong to a particularly vulnerable and under-prioritized group. Dependence on men, their inability to borrow money from a bank and social and cultural norms make it difficult for these women to have a place in economic life and thus have an impact on their own future. By providing small loans and simple banking through its investment in the microfinance fund, PBU helps to make a difference for these women. The investment creates the basis for income-generating activities and supplements the families' finances.

- This investment will make an important contribution to empowering people and creating financial inclusion in developing countries. We are very pleased to welcome investors like PBU - who share our values and commitment to responsible and sustainable investments, says Arthur Sletteberg, CEO of NMI.

About PBU: We are the early childhood teacher's very own pension company and are 100 per cent owned by our 115,000 members. We manage a total pension wealth of approx. DKK 71 billion.

About Nordic Microfinance Initiative (NMI): The company invests in microfinance institutions (MFIs) in Africa and Asia and is a public-private partnership. One of the company's largest investors is the Investment Fund for Developing Countries, IFU, which represents the Danish State.

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