

WHO WE ARE

“To equip economic decision-makers in...emerging countries with the tools of commercial success.”

—William Davidson

Established at the University of Michigan in 1992, the **William Davidson Institute** is an independent, non-profit research and educational organization. Serving both profit-seeking and non-profit firms, WDI is guided by our founding principle that thriving businesses drive economic development and improve social welfare in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).

CONTACT

Ekta Jhaveri

Senior Research Associate

ekta@umich.edu

+1-734-763-5694

FINANCE SECTOR

ABOUT FINANCE

WDI's **Finance Sector** works to identify ways for financial institutions to profitably lower the cost of capital available to small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in emerging economies.

CORE COMPETENCIES

We test new business models and help local partners bring them to scale. We work closely with local partners to ensure they maintain ownership of process/product while building capacity. Our key focus areas are:

Remittances as Information. Work with diaspora communities to understand their investment interests and develop ways in which remittances can be leveraged to improve access to finance for SMEs in emerging economies. WDI has developed a mechanism, Leveraging Remittances as Information (LRI) that uses remittances as both source of information and collateral for the lending institution.

SME-Focused Investment Funds. WDI is working with U-M faculty, students, members of certain diaspora communities and local partners in emerging economies to establish private funds that profitably invest in SMEs.

WHY PARTNER WITH US?

We offer:

- › Expertise in applying financial theory to mechanisms for increasing access to capital for SMEs in LMICs.
- › Experience across geographic regions including Africa and India.
- › A continuing partnership with WDI staff and faculty from the Ross School of Business as the business scales.
- › Technical training and consulting for portfolio businesses.

