



Microfinance Institutions and Women Entrepreneurs in Ethiopian Development Context, 2005

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Published: 22 January 2005 | **Received:** 21 September 2004 | **Accepted:** 17 December 2004

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DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18819954](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18819954)

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Abstract

Microfinance institutions (MFIs) have emerged as significant players in supporting women entrepreneurs in Ethiopia's development context. A review of existing literature and case studies from various MFI programmes targeting female entrepreneurs in Ethiopia's rural regions. While MFIs contribute positively to the economic empowerment of women entrepreneurs, there is room for improvement in terms of addressing specific gender-based constraints and enhancing service delivery quality. MFIs should develop more targeted interventions that address unique challenges faced by female entrepreneurs, such as social stigma and limited collateral. Additionally, they could collaborate with NGOs to provide complementary services like training and market linkages.

Keywords: *African geography, Women empowerment, Microfinance, Development economics, Gender studies, Participatory methods, Case analysis*

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