



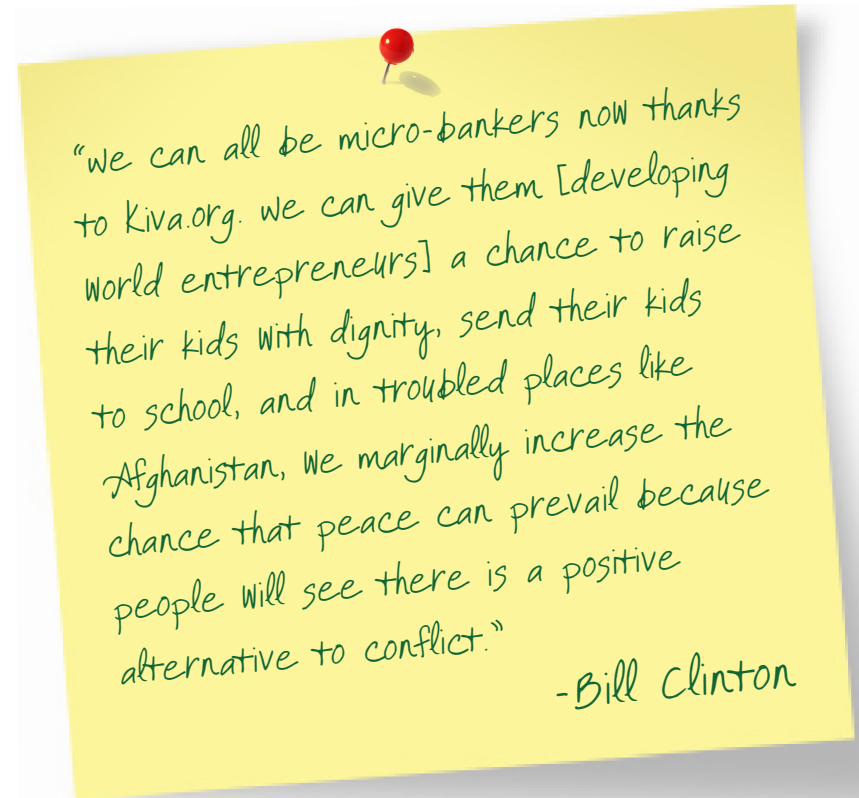
Kiva lets you lend to specific entrepreneurs in the developing world—empowering them to lift themselves out of poverty.

what is kiva?

Kiva allows you to lend as little as \$25 to an entrepreneur in the developing world who needs a loan. You can act as a banker to the poor by lending money to entrepreneurs in developing countries. When you get repaid, you can choose to withdraw the money or re-loan it! Which entrepreneur you lend to is up to you—be it a baker in Afghanistan, a goat herder in Uganda, a farmer in Peru, a restaurateur in Cambodia or a tailor in Iraq.

what is microfinance?

Microfinance is the provision of financial services to the poor, often in the form of small loans to start or expand small businesses. The recipients are too poor to qualify for traditional bank loans, because they are too expensive to serve but not because they are not capable of paying back the loan. “Kiva partners with microfinance institutions who screen entrepreneurs, disburse the loans to them, and collect their repayments.”



How Kiva Works:



"A loan through Kiva is not a hand-out..."

yenku sesay of sierra leone

Rebel soldiers cut off Yenku's hands, as punishment for voting. Aged 21, he was a double amputee, whose only prospects were begging in the streets.

Yenku took a loan of \$100 from a microfinance institution that saw he was motivated to support himself. Yenku sold soap, biscuits and small items for a small profit. He repaid his loan, and reinvested further profits into the business. Yenku now supports his family of three children, and pays for his brother's school fees.



REUTERS

"Anyone with \$25 and an Internet connection can now become an international microfinancier through Kiva, an organization that matches individual lenders with impoverished entrepreneurs in the developing world."

what makes kiva different?

Kiva allows individuals to fight global poverty in a personal and sustainable way by enabling them to lend to low-income entrepreneurs in the developing world. A loan through Kiva is not a hand-out: it is a source of empowerment for both the lender and the entrepreneur. Kiva users are not donors; they are lenders in “peer-to-peer” microfinance, a process based on mutual respect and trust. Kiva lenders see exactly who their money goes to, what the recipients are doing with it, and how it is making a difference. For the entrepreneur and his/her family, one small loan can change their lives—and the whole community’s future prosperity.

kiva in the community

One of the most powerful things about Kiva is its community of lenders—everyday people from all walks of life, from all over the world. Kiva enables lenders to connect with one another through Lending Teams and community programs.

With Lending Teams, lenders can start teams based on common interests, such as sports or politics, or social networks, such as schools or geographical areas. Then lenders with common interests or social connections can see their combined impact on alleviating world poverty.

*...it is a source of empowerment
for both the lender and the entrepreneur.”*



In Kiva's first three years,
\$45 million was loaned
to entrepreneurs in more than
40 developing countries, enabled
by **340,000 lenders.**

To get involved, please visit

KIVA.org