

## **Press Release: Drumming An End To Poverty: The microcredit summit plans to Beat Poverty**

December 22, 2009, WASHINGTON, D.C.—“The music of prosperity will sound out through the drum beats to end poverty,” said, Sam Daley-Harris, Founder of RESULTS and the Microcredit Summit Campaign. He announced today an innovative new partnership in, “Drumming an End to Poverty,” [www.drumminganendtopoverty.org](http://www.drumminganendtopoverty.org) a global Drum Circle to be broadcast on the opening day of the Africa-Middle East Regional Microcredit Summit. The event will use the power of rhythm and the heart beat of community to raise awareness about microfinance as a means to end poverty. “These global drum circles will help raise funds to support the Microcredit Summit, the “Davos of the movement,” and microfinance programs around the world.” said Vikash Kumar, Executive Director of Microfinance Focus. The Summit will be held in Nairobi, Kenya on April 7-10, 2010. For more information, please visit [www.microcreditsummit.org](http://www.microcreditsummit.org).

“We will kick off the Nairobi Summit with a powerful expression of global solidarity and our progress against poverty. The Drums will unite a global series of Drum Circles directed from Kenya and broadcast as a synchronized, multi-time zone event,” said Daley-Harris. Daley-Harris, began his career as a percussionist in the Miami philharmonic..

Jerry Peloquin, event organizer, is a drummer and founding member of Jefferson Airplane, the legendary ‘60s era rock band. Mr. Peloquin explained, “Every year, some nine million children around the world die simply because they cannot afford to stay alive. African drumbeats will sound an alarm urging people to act to end poverty.”

Peloquin plans to mobilize famous drummers from all eras to lead the event. “There will be stages set up at event cities around the world. The Drum Circles will be primal and powerful. The sound of the drums will evoke one of the deepest and most profound qualities of the human spirit -- compassion.”

We’re inviting radio stations from around to broadcast the beats and be part of the drumming.

In Kenya, the host will be the Association of Microfinance Institutions of Kenya (AMFI). The AMFI chair of the Summit is Ingrid Munro, founder of Jamii Bora, a much-heralded organization working to provide sustainable lives, through microfinance, to those who live in the dangerous, dirty slums of Nairobi. Munro, has led over 250,000 entrepreneurs to begin climbing the ladder out of poverty through microfinance. Her vision led Jamii Bora to build the first African Microfinance ECO-Village to move families from the slums to a town with two bedroom houses, clean, running water and green electricity. The Summit will focus attention upon the new microUP strategy for building small and growing business run by the poor.

Muhammad Yunus, Nobel Laureate and Founding Director of The Grameen Bank will attend the Summit, along with 2,000 others including government officials, key members of civil society and a wide range of private financial and global aid institutions.

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