

Jennefer Sebstad Bio

Jennefer Sebstad is a development specialist with 25 years of experience working on programs to expand income, employment and asset building opportunities for low-income people in Africa and Asia. She has worked as a researcher, evaluator, and program designer in the areas of microfinance, enterprise development and livelihood programming. Currently, she serves as a senior advisor for Microfinance Opportunities' Global Financial Education Program (GFEP). In this role she participated in the development of a financial education curriculum targeted to low income populations in developing countries and oversees the program's outcome assessment work. She is a founding member of the GFEP steering committee. Previously, she worked as a program officer for Ford Foundation and a project officer for USAID. She is a co-author of Microfinance, Risk Management, and Poverty and has written articles and reports on the impact of microfinance and enterprise development programs and the demand for microinsurance. Now based in Boston, Ms Sebstad has lived in Ethiopia, Kenya, and India. She has an M.A. in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of California, Los Angeles and an A.B. in South and Southeast Asian Studies from the University of Michigan.