



**HARVARD  
BUSINESS SCHOOL**

**ACCION**



## Overview

The intensive six-day program offers leaders from around the world an exceptional opportunity to connect with peers and engage with some of the HBS faculty's foremost thinkers in business strategy and management. The Harvard Business School (HBS) Executive Education learning model immerses the world's most promising leaders in a transformational experience that marries the best of strategic thinking with the most important advances in financial inclusion and impact investing.

## Program Benefits

- A **platform for financial inclusion leaders** within financial services companies, government agencies, support organizations, and knowledge institutions to discuss, share ideas, and gain new expertise
- An **intensive six days of learning** using the world-renowned HBS case study methodology, learning from and analyzing the decisions of financial inclusion leaders at critical moments
- **Access to distinguished HBS faculty** and subject-matter experts in business strategy and management
- The opportunity to **expand your network** and to **connect with like-minded** peers from around the world facing similar issues and to learn from their experiences

## Program Approach



### Immersive Learning Experience

Program participants spend six days intensely engaged in coursework material that combines the best of strategic thinking with the most important advances in financial inclusion and impact investing. Participants benefit from the diverse learnings of their peers and instructors.



### Springboard for Peer Collaboration

The program convenes financial inclusion's top leaders to work collaboratively to identify practical business strategies from the experiences of leading institutions. The productive and rewarding relationships formed here continue far beyond the end of the course.



### HBS Case Study Method

HBS's world-renown educational methodology highlights the greatest challenges facing leading and emerging companies, and under the guidance of experienced faculty members, participants learn from and analyze the decisions of financial inclusion leaders at critical moments.

“The HBS-Accion Program was a transformational week and unique opportunity to ‘earn with’ and ‘learn from’ a global classroom led by HBS faculty and expert speakers. My classmates represented incumbents in the financial inclusion space alongside new players shaping the future. I especially enjoyed the HBS cases that moved beyond specific financial products to the larger ecosystems and business models required for financial inclusion to occur in markets as diverse as Afghanistan, China, and Mexico. I have stayed actively engaged with several of my classmates and the broader alumni group. I hope to take the course again as our industry rapidly evolves.”

– Wayne Hennessy-Barrett, Founder, CEO and Chairman, 4G Capital

“The Accion-HBS Strategic Leadership in Financial Inclusion Course provided me with a universe of access to professional knowledge, a first-rate global network of new friends and colleagues, and first-rate teaching. It was an invaluable opportunity to reflect not only upon my own experiences in financial inclusion, but to draw strength from the lessons learned by others. I commend this course in the highest terms to any professional engaged in the fight against poverty.”

– Thea Anderson, Director, Digital Identity, Omidyar Network

## Course Focus

The program addresses key strategic issues arising out of the dual goals of economic and social value creation that define the industry, which include:

- How new business models in this space—especially technology-enhanced models—succeed or flounder
- How to successfully competing in highly competitive markets
- How to balance one’s social mission with financial considerations
- How to stay abreast of rapidly evolving products and delivery channels

## To Apply

The application period opens October 2018. The application deadline January 11, 2019. The 2019 program will be held from Sunday, March 31, 2019 to Friday, April 5, 2019.

*Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.*

Program costs, including tuition, housing, all meals, and extras are **\$8,350** plus a **\$275** administration fee.



## Citi Foundation



The Citi Foundation provides a limited number of partial scholarships to participants who otherwise cannot attend because of the cost. If you would like to apply for a scholarship, please indicate in the application. *Please note that we are unable to offer scholarships to all applicants who apply.*

## CENTER for FINANCIAL INCLUSION



The Center for Financial Inclusion at Accion (CFI) is an action-oriented think tank that engages and challenges the industry to better serve, protect and empower clients. We develop insights, advocate on behalf of clients and collaborate with stakeholders to achieve a comprehensive vision for financial inclusion. We are dedicated to enabling three billion people who are left out of – or poorly served by – the financial sector to improve their lives.