

the **opportunity** for meaningful investments leading to real returns

The best known measure for evaluating investment efficiency or comparing investments is the ROI or Return on Investment ratio. However, this measure is inadequate for evaluating our work, so we are adapting a new meaning of the acronym. For this report, we would like ROI to signify *Real Opportunity Investment*: real, because we work with real people and organizations throughout Latin America; opportunity, because our financing opens opportunities to people traditionally excluded from accessing this backing, and investment, because your support is an investment that brings opportunities to real people.

Thanks to that support and the work of our 25 partners in Latin America, during 2011 WCCN has been able to:

- Expand lending to Peru to fight poverty and income inequality, bringing the number of Latin American countries WCCN works in to six, also including Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Ecuador
- Close our first two loans in local currencies—to ProMujer Nicaragua in Córdobas and ProMujer Peru in Nuevo Soles—to help our microfinance partner agencies minimize the risk of currency devaluation
- Increase small-scale coffee farmers' incomes and access to international fair trade markets through loans to coffee cooperatives
- Continue helping Latin American women, who currently account for two-thirds of our microfinance partner agencies' borrowers, achieve economic empowerment through access to financing
- Celebrate 20 years of successfully providing working capital to small Latin American business owners and farmers who have been excluded from their country's conventional financial systems

Your continued support during 2012 and beyond will keep us expanding our reach and deepening our impact.

In solidarity,

Carlos Arenas
WCCN Executive Director

On the cover: Ines Callañaupa Quillahuaman, weaver in Peru

The beautiful and vibrant photographs are by Michael Kienitz, except for the photo on page 6, by Jeanne Duffy.







opportunities to support small-scale farmers and the environment

Leonidas Gómez Diaz is a coffee farmer in Santa Rosa, Peru. Until the mid-1990s, this remote area of Peru was overrun with drug traffickers growing coca for processing into cocaine. With the help of the U.S. and Peruvian governments and ADEX, the Association of Exporters, the drug traffickers were evicted and the coca fields were replanted in coffee and cocoa.

Leonidas is proud to be a member and vice president of WCCN partner agency the *Asociación* de *Productores Agropecuarios del Valle Alto Mayo*/ The Association of Farmers from the Alto Mayo Valley (APAVAM). Asked why he likes APAVAM, he spoke of the courses and assistance he receives to increase productivity and improve the quality of his coffee fields. He spoke about benefits of being organized into an association, which opens many more opportunities than working individually. He spoke about being proud to farm organically, saying, "Protecting the environment is very important because we need to leave something for the kids."



opportunities for socially responsible investing

Last year, while in Guatemala, I met a man who owned one loom and had plans to buy a second loom. This year, while in Ecuador, I met a woman who sold a wide variety of fresh vegetables in an open market. These entrepreneurs were only two of several that I had the good fortune to meet while on WCCN study tours of those two countries. During the tours, other WCCN investors, supporters, staff and I met with agencies in Guatemala and Ecuador and then with a few of the people who had borrowed small amounts of money from those agencies. The entire enterprise of making small loans available to extremely hardworking people is a marvelous notion. (The loans are small at least from the much more prosperous, if not affluent, perspective of the United States.)

Certainly there are many worthy enterprises that assist the less fortunate people in the U.S., and I would never disparage anyone's contribution to such efforts, but some of us *norteamericanos* need to give a helping hand up the ladder of economic self-sufficiency to the people of Latin America. And certainly there are various worthy charities that assist the less fortunate in Latin America, but charity goes only so far and often leaves those people who receive the charity in the same dire economic circumstances after the funds are exhausted. Also, the people of Latin America want the opportunity to advance based on their own merits and not by having some largess given to them. They don't want charity. They want to prove their self-worth by their own efforts. I learned this lesson from my own parents, who didn't have any great financial wealth, but they had a different kind of wealth. It was the wealth that came from working for the betterment of their seven children.

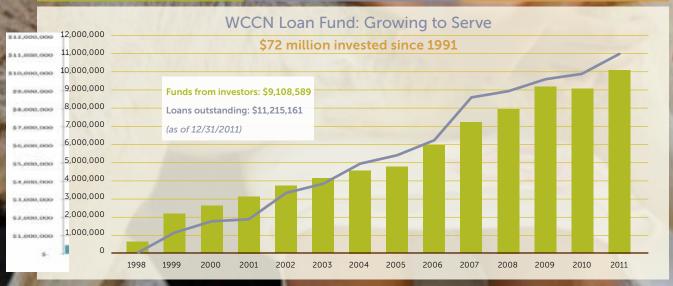
This leads me to why I am an investor in WCCN. Since I am able to satisfy my needs and then some, I would much rather be able to invest some of my "extra" money in my fellow citizens of the world. I like the notion that a nonprofit organization lends my surplus resources to people who are then able to provide better lives for themselves and—most important—their children, because ultimately it is the children who will benefit the most. I feel that I am really investing in the future of the children of the borrowers. Without a doubt, the educational and occupational prospects of children are enhanced when the economic situations of families improve.

I believe that as citizens of the world we need to hold out the hand of human compassion when we have the opportunity. In addition, my personal non-material wealth has been enhanced by my investing in and involvement with WCCN.

Investor Bob Esser







balancing meaningful investments and real returns

ASSETS	2011	2010
Cash and Other Current Assets	\$ 1,290,546	\$ 1,621,938
Current Notes Receivable, Loan Fund	6,918,354	6,366,478
Other Current Receivables	40,179	33,023
Equipment (less accumulated depreciation)	-	743
Accrued Interest Receivable	201,785	158,600
Long-Term Notes Receivable, Loan Fund	3,983,220	3,054,229
(less loan loss reserve)		
TOTAL ASSETS	12,434,084	11,235,011
LIABILITIES		
Accrued Interest and Accounts Payable	177,145	162,270
Current Notes Payable, Loan Fund	2,978,781	3,244,706
Long-Term Notes Payable, Loan Fund	7,207,383	5,863,973
Deferred Revenue	22,539	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	10,385,848	9,270,949
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	1,797,009	1,713,585
Temporarily restricted	251,227	250,477
TOTAL NET ASSETS	2,048,236	1,964,062
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	12,434,084	11,235,011
REVENUE		
Grants and Contributions	99,673	72,105
Program Fees and Tour Revenue	88,172	67,375
Interest Income, Loan Fund	905,135	928,913
Other Income	9,429	2,213
TOTAL REVENUE	1,102,409	1,070,606
TO THE REVENUE	1,102,409	1,070,000
EXPENSES		
Program	863,424	872,793
Fundraising	37,147	39,803
Administration	118,414	129,780
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,018,985	1,042,376
CHANGE IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	83,424	28,230
CHANGE IN RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	750	(250)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	84,174	27,980

These figures are based on audited financial summaries.

Full audited financial reports are available on WCCN's website: www.wccn.org

investors

Special thanks to our 59 investors who chose an interest rate of 0%, and over 200 who chose a reduced interest rate.

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First Presbyterian Church

of Three Rivers and Centreville

First Presbyterian Church, Shenandoah

First Unitarian Society of Madison First United Methodist Church

First United Presbyterian Church

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Religious Communities Investment Fund

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Real Opportunity Investment:

Working Capital for Community Needs (WCCN) is a nonprofit organization that empowers low-income Latin American entrepreneurs and small-scale farmers through microcredit, fair trade, housing projects and women's empowerment initiatives.

Since our 1984 founding, we continue to implement sustainable economic and social advancement programs through partnerships with microfinance institutions, development organizations and cooperatives in Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Peru.

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