

THE QUEST  
TO FIGHT POVERTY  
THROUGH THE USE OF  
DIGITAL FINANCE

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Vice President and Treasurer

# About IFC

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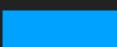
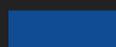
- ❖ Member of the World Bank Group.
- ❖ 60 years of experience providing loans, equity and capital market solutions to private sector companies in emerging markets.
- ❖ Global presence in more than 100 countries and working with over 2,000 private sector clients.





# Global Poverty



**Poverty**  **Extreme Poverty**   
2 billion people (< \$3.20 a day)      800 million people (< \$1.90 a day)

# Global Poverty

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Two billion people in the world are unbanked, which is roughly the number of people living under \$3.20 per day in the developing world



Fighting Poverty Needs Financial Inclusion

# Artificial Intelligence & Digital Finance

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- ❖ Power of disruptive technology + big data + power of finance = endless possibilities.
- ❖ Enormous potential to overcome development challenges and contribute to World Bank Group goal of universal access to financial services.



- ❖ AI can be used to make better liquidity investment decisions -> yield more income for poorer people.
- ❖ Adding a new customer on bKash, on Amazon, on Ant Financial = zero cost because platform already established.

# Case Study 7: Haiti – Cellphones, Buses, Big Data

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**Marie**



**IFC**

International  
Finance Corporation  
WORLD BANK GROUP

# Case Study 7: Haiti – Cellphones, Buses, Big Data

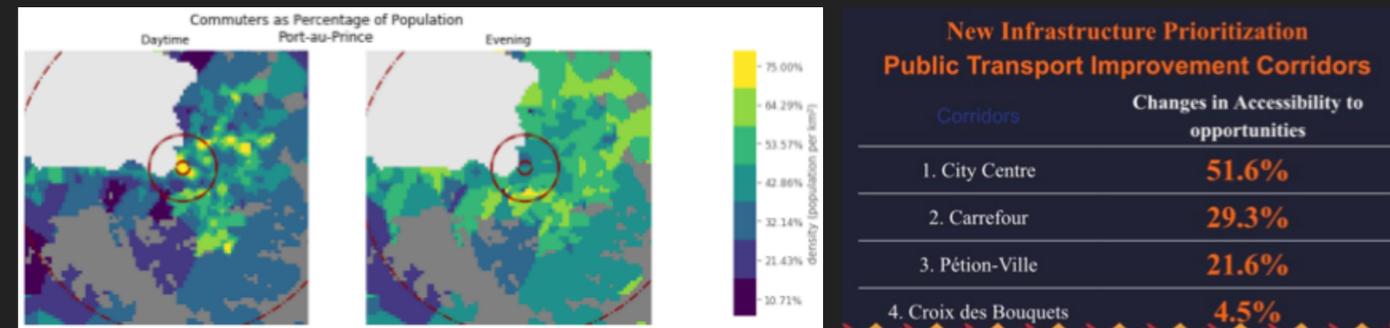
## Using AI + mobile technology to connect poor with jobs.



- ❖ Every morning Marie leaves home at 4am and walks the hilly streets of Port-au-Prince to get to a bus stop to get to work.
- ❖ She travels 1 hour to the city center. If she changes bus lines she has to pay for a new fare.
- ❖ By the end of each month, Marie will have paid more than her entire income just getting to work.



## Difficulty of acquiring data in developing countries



- ❖ Digicel - Track cell phone location and infer how people **move**.
- ❖ Track night time calls - Determine where they **live**.
- ❖ Track pattern of day time calls - Determine where they **work**.
- ❖ Plan infrastructure, transport - e.g. Buses to meet needs of the poor.

## Result

Using data to give opportunity and access to jobs for millions of poor.

# Case Study 2: bKash - Bangladesh

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## Changing the world using mobile financial services

- ❖ bKash goal: To create financial access for Bangladesh's unbanked = 40% of population.



- ❖ Started in 2010 by brothers Kamal & Iqbal Quadir in partnership with BRAC Bank.
- ❖ Today, 35.2 million people are using bKash = 22% of the population.
- ❖ Safely send money over mobile phones.
- ❖ Customers can save money + pay for products and services.
- ❖ \$5mIn seed capital from US Money in Motion + \$10mIn from Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

# Case Study 2: bKash - Bangladesh

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## bKash & IFC

- ❖ 2013, IFC minority stake \$10m equity injection = advance financial inclusion in Bangladesh.
  - ❖ Assistance with corporate governance to attract further private investments.
  - ❖ Help expanding network of merchants.
- ❖ 2014, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation took an equity stake.



**#23**  
"Change the World"  
list of positive social  
impact companies



- ❖ Transactions secure, simple, low-cost and accounted for.
- ❖ Opportunity for small entrepreneurs to earn additional revenue + increased traffic in stores.



# Digital Finance

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## Game Changer for Development

Transforming the way to reach every citizen in the world

Generating massive data to improve service efficiency and cost

Accelerating realization of SDGs and World Bank twin goals

Let's work together to achieve a world without poverty

# Stay Connected

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Website  
[www.ifc.org](http://www.ifc.org)

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THANK YOU

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