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Municipal Finance Law Since 1971

Scaling Impact for Community Development Financial Institutions.

Abstract

The link between economic equity and financial and economic inclusion has long been the focus of community development financial institutions (CDFIs). CDFIs provide financial products and services to low-income, low-wealth, and underserved communities. In this brief, we examine what scale means for CDFIs, distinguishing size from impact. We look at how CDFIs deepen their impact through development and technical assistance services. Finally, we highlight the important role funding and balance-sheet management play in determining the type of future growth the industry can achieve. These questions are especially relevant given today's ongoing public debate about economic growth and equity.

[Read the Brief.](#)

The Urban Institute

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