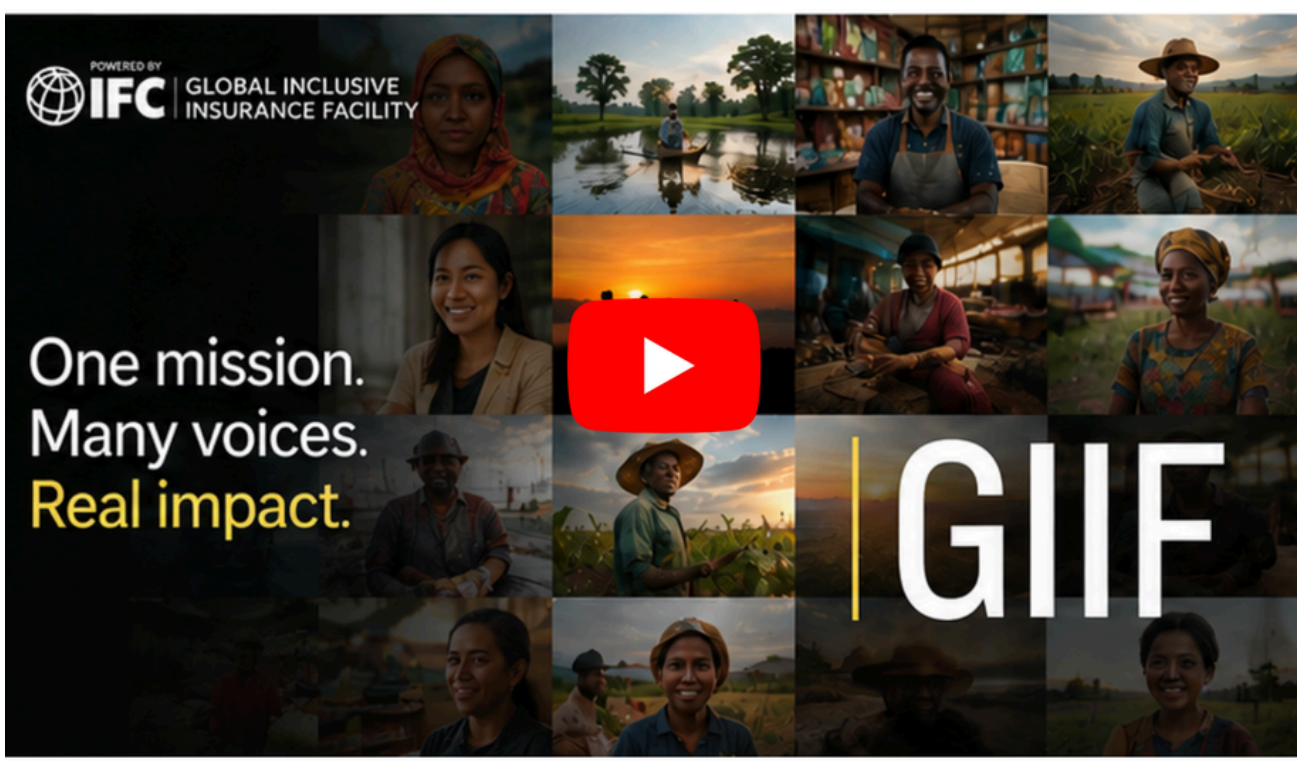
October took us from Bangkok to Kigali to Mauritius, and wherever the conversation landed, it kept coming back to the same idea: insurance only matters if it works for the people who need it. At the Annual Meetings, that meant putting jobs, farmers, and small businesses at the center. At ICII, it meant asking harder questions about trust and understanding, not just access. And in Mauritius, Madagascar, and Malawi, it meant looking at what stronger markets and national systems can do to close the protection gap. In this issue, you'll find those stories, plus a new video and our podcast series, with the people behind the work sharing what they're learning along the way.

ONE MISSION, MANY VOICES, REAL IMPACT

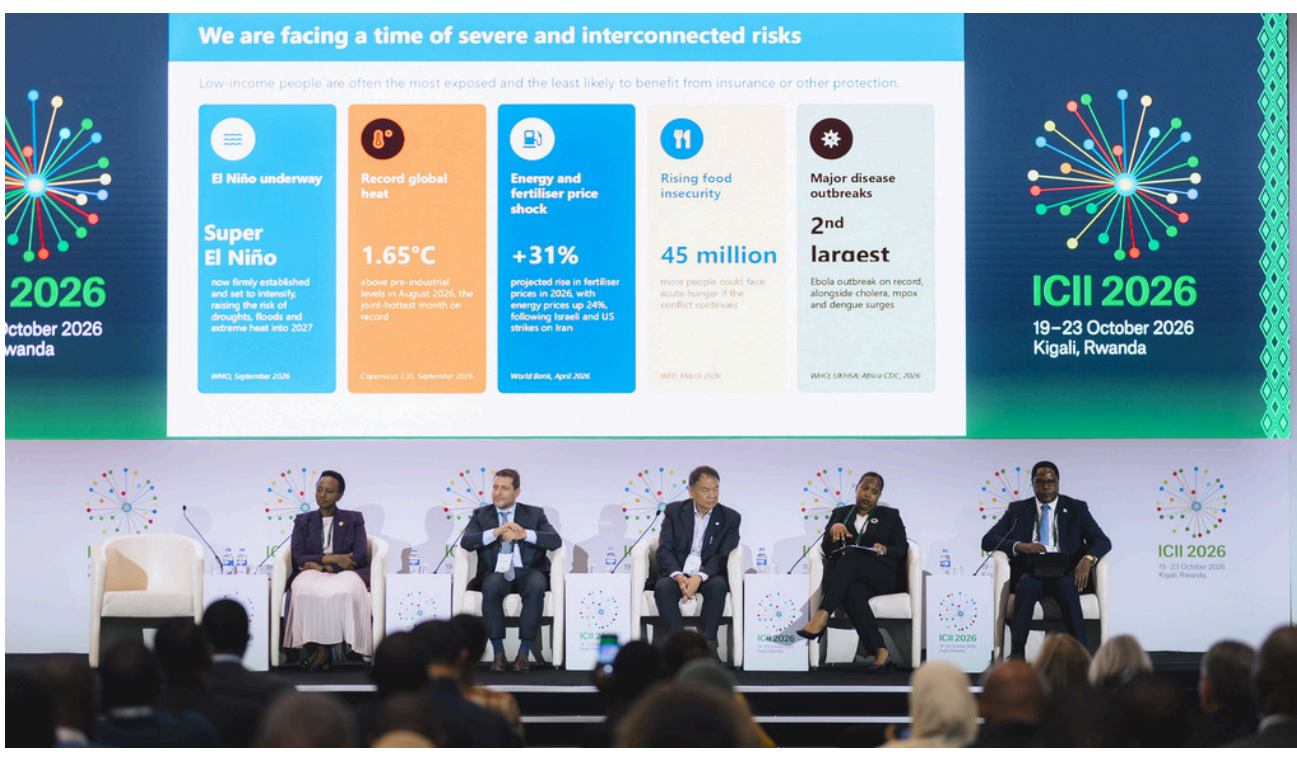
Resilience doesn't happen by chance. Meet the people building it, for the communities that need it most.



For a farmer, insurance can mean planting again after a tough season. For a small business, it can mean keeping the doors open and people employed after a shock. Our new program video takes you behind the scenes of that work. It introduces the colleagues and partners whose experience in advisory, investment, implementation, technology, and knowledge comes together to make it happen. Press play to meet them! A big thank you to everyone who shared their time and perspectives on camera. And thanks to the *Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)*, whose support over the years has helped build stronger insurance markets and greater financial resilience.

ICII 2026: AWARE ISN'T THE SAME AS UNDERSTOOD

A week in Kigali rethinking what inclusive insurance really means, and how GIIF and DRFIP brought farmers and MSMEs into the conversation.



What does it really take to make insurance inclusive? Over a week in Kigali, Rwanda, ICII 2026 brought practitioners, regulators, and development partners together to work through that question. The answer went well beyond getting more people covered. The discussions moved from understanding customers, to turning access into real protection, to building systems that can scale. One case study from the Solomon Islands made the challenge clear: awareness of insurance rose from 57% to 87%, yet almost 80% of people still couldn't explain how a parametric payout works. Explore the key takeaways from each day, and see why the next chapter for inclusive insurance depends on trust as much as reach.

GIIF AND DRFIP TAKE THE STAGE IN KIGALI

At ICII 2026, the two WBG programs joined forces on integrating innovative, scalable insurance into de-risking mechanisms for farmers and MSMEs through public-private partnerships.

When a drought or flood hits, farmers and small businesses struggle to repay their loans, and lenders pull back just when support is needed most. At ICII 2026 in Kigali, ***GIIF*** and ***DRFIP*** hosted an all-women panel that looked at how to break that cycle. Experts from the World Bank Group, IFC, the Development Bank of Rwanda, and Zep-Re shared solutions already at work. These include the SAPPHIRE framework for building agricultural insurance markets and a Bridge Lending Window that keeps credit flowing after climate shocks. They also include a regional project that has paid more than US$20 million in claims to pastoralists. Discover what these models reveal about pairing insurance with credit to build real resilience.

STRONG BALANCE SHEETS, UNTAPPED POTENTIAL

Shadreck Mapfumo and James Smouse bring back their takeaways from Mauritius on reinsurance, AI, and closing Africa's protection gap.

African reinsurers are underwriting well and have capital to spare, so why aren't they writing more business? At the 30th African Reinsurance Forum in Mauritius, Shadreck Mapfumo and James Smouse of the World Bank Group explored that question. Their answer: the constraint isn't capital or underwriting quality, but access to good business. They also shared how IFC's new reinsurance credit risk guarantee aims to open doors for regional reinsurers. And they looked at why, when it comes to AI, the industry wants humans to stay firmly in the decision-making loop. With insurance penetration below 3% in most African countries, read their key takeaways on what it will take to close the continent's protection gap.

GLOBAL SHIELD COORDINATION HUB: READY BEFORE THE STORM

How Madagascar and Malawi are connecting risk data, social protection, and insurance so support arrives when it's needed most.

At its Africa Regional Briefing in October, the Global Shield Coordination Hub gathered partners to take stock of progress in both countries, with GIIF sharing its own engagement. The updates were concrete. Madagascar is strengthening its National Contingency Fund, modelling flood hazards, and studying how climate shocks drive internal displacement. Malawi is improving payment channels and climate risk modelling to guide policy and fiscal planning. Participants also welcomed inclusive insurance as a priority area and stressed the value of building on existing national systems. Find out what's underway, and explore the new Country Highlights for both countries.

PRESS PLAY ON RESILIENCE

Global experts on what it really takes to build resilience.

Our Resilience in Action podcast has already reached more than 200 listeners, bringing them inside the ideas and partnerships driving change on the ground. In ***Episode 1***, Dr. Astrid Zwick, Former Co-Director of the Global Shield Secretariat, talks about moving from crisis response to proactive resilience. She draws on examples from Costa Rica, Senegal, and The Gambia, and explains why gender-responsive solutions matter. In Episode 2, Dr. Arup Banerji, Director of Knowledge and Learning at the WBG, shares how the World Bank Group Academy turns real-world challenges into practical learning. He shows how countries like Albania and the Philippines are rethinking disaster risk financing. Catch up now and stay tuned: Episode 3 is coming soon!

1.2 BILLION REASONS TO TALK ABOUT JOBS

What Bangkok revealed about closing the jobs gap, and why farms, small businesses, and smarter technology are part of the answer.

Over the next 10 to 15 years, about 1.2 billion young people in developing countries will reach working age, but only around 400 million jobs are expected to be created. In our ***key takeaways from the 2026 Annual Meetings***, we look at why WBG President Ajay Banga called for turning development ambitions into tangible results, and why mobilizing private capital matters so much. Then we turn to the sector closest to our work. In ***From Farms to Future Jobs***, we explore how AgriConnect aims to connect 300 million smallholder farmers to markets, finance, and services by 2030. We also cover country-led AgriConnect Compacts, the role of AI and digital tools in farming, the businesses that keep food systems running, the newly launched Philanthropy Hub, and more.

ABOUT GIIF

The Global Inclusive Insurance Facility (GIIF), formerly known as the Global Index Insurance Facility, aims to strengthen the resilience of farmers and micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) in developing countries, with a primary focus on Sub-Saharan Africa, the Caribbean, and the Asia-Pacific region. Funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the program supports access to inclusive climate risk insurance products designed to protect livelihoods from disruptions and losses in agricultural production.

Global Inclusive Insurance Facility (GIIF)
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