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October 2005

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Kiva.org is the world's first personal micro-lending website, empowering individuals to lend to an entrepreneur. By combining microfinance with the internet, Kiva.org is creating a global community of people connected through lending.

**Company Overview**

Kiva lets you connect with and loan money to unique small businesses. By choosing a business on Kiva.org, you can "sponsor a business" and help the world's working poor make great strides towards economic independence. Throughout the course of the loan (usually 6-12 months), you can receive email updates from the borrower you've sponsored. As loans are repaid, you get your loan money back and can...[See more](#)

**Mission**

Kiva.org is the world's first personal micro-lending website, empowering individuals to lend to an entrepreneur. By combining microfinance with the internet, Kiva.org is creating a global community of people connected through lending.

Kiva.org's mission is to connect people, through lending, for the sake of alleviating poverty.

Kiva.org was born of the following beliefs:

- \* People are by nature generous, and will help others if given the opportunity to do so in a transparent, accountable way.
- \* The poor are highly motivated and can be very successful when given an opportunity.
- \* By connecting people we can create relationships which exceed beyond financial transactions, and build a global community expressing support and encouragement of one another.

Kiva.org promotes:





- \* Dignity: Lending encourages partnership relationships as opposed to benefactor relationships. Partnership relationships are characterized by mutual dignity and respect.
- \* Accountability: Loans encourage more accountability than donations where repayment is not expected.
- \* Transparency: The Kiva.org website is an open platform where communication can flow freely.

Kiva.org democratizes philanthropy, allowing the average individual to feel like a mini-Bill Gates by building a portfolio of investments in world businesses.

Kiva.org has facilitated loans totaling \$200 million as of March 17, 2011.

**Email**[contactus@kiva.org](mailto:contactus@kiva.org)**Website**<http://www.kiva.org>**Likes and interests**

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