



**AppLab Uganda Launch
Monday, June 29, 2009**

BIOS OF GRAMEEN FOUNDATION SPOKESPERSONS

Alex Counts, President, Grameen Foundation

Alex Counts has more than two decades experience in microfinance, starting as a Fulbright scholar at Grameen Bank in Bangladesh. In 1997, he founded Grameen Foundation, a global nonprofit organization, that fights global poverty by providing financing, technology support and management strategies to the local organizations that serve the world's poorest people. Prior to establishing Grameen Foundation, Mr. Counts served as the legislative director of RESULTS and also worked as regional project manager for CARE-Bangladesh. While at Grameen Bank, he worked and studied under Nobel Laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus, founder and managing director of Grameen Bank, and helped to establish the bank's flagship newsletter, Grameen Dialogue. Mr. Counts chairs the board of Project Enterprise and serves on the boards of Fonkoze USA and the PLAN Fund. He is also a member of the Board of Advisors of the Katalysis Bootstrap Fund and a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of Grameen Dialogue. In addition, he serves on the board of Grameen-Jameel Pan Arab Microfinance Limited, an enterprise based on Professor Yunus' concept of social businesses.

Mr. Counts is the author of *Small Loans: Big Dreams* which was published by Wiley and Sons in March 2008, and *Give Us Credit: How Muhammad Yunus' Micro-Lending Revolution is Empowering Women from Bangladesh to Chicago*, which was published by Random House (New York) and Research Press (New Delhi) in 1996. He earned a BA in economics from Cornell University.

KEY PROJECT STAFF

David Edelstein, Director, ICT Innovation, Grameen Foundation

David Edelstein is the Director of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Innovation at the Grameen Technology Center, a division of Grameen Foundation. In this role, he leads efforts to develop, test, strengthen and scale mobile applications that offer the potential to improve lives and livelihoods. ICT Innovation teams are exploring the potential of specific applications by working with networks of "trusted intermediaries", such as Village Phone Operators, who own and provide access to mobile phones. Additional information about the initiatives underway is available at www.applab.org.

Prior to joining Grameen Foundation, David spent three years at Microsoft designing innovative business models to provide affordable technology products for people in emerging markets.



David also worked in Brazil for four years, with the consulting firm McKinsey & Company, where he developed business strategies tailored to the needs of consumers and businesses in developing countries. Previously, David conducted economic analyses and evaluated public policy with the White House Council of Economic Advisers and with Resources For the Future. He holds a Bachelors degree in Environmental Science and Economics from Colby College and a Masters degree in Economics and Public Policy from Princeton University.

Eric Cantor, Manager, AppLab Uganda, Grameen Foundation

Eric leads Grameen Foundation's Application Laboratory efforts in Uganda. Before joining Grameen Foundation, he was with Acumen Fund where he worked on technology issues both internally and with a number of investees. Eric Cantor established, managed and advised startup Internet and technology companies; worked with non-governmental organizations in developing countries; and managed complex projects. In the mid-1990s, he started an Internet Service Provider in the Washington, DC area called Internet Interstate, which was acquired by Verio, Inc., and he later held a variety of positions in management and marketing for both large and small Internet companies. Eric has a BA in International Relations from Emory University and an MA in International Affairs from Columbia University, for which he completed a number of projects including analyzing the operations of a microfinance organization in Honduras.