

Intern Testimonial

Min-Si is a PlaNNet Finance consultant for the Harbin bank downscaling project. As a project consultant, she provides technical assistance to the microfinance operation of a Chinese bank. Her first project with PlaNNet Finance was to start a microfinance institution, MicroCred China, in Sichuan. Before joining PlaNNet Finance, Min-Si was an analyst with Fannie Mae, a mortgage finance company in Washington DC. She has also worked with United Nations Capital Development Fund on two initiatives promoting the Year of Microcredit – the Latin America Telenovela initiative and the Microentrepreneur Award in Pakistan. Min-Si holds a B.S. in Economics from the Wharton School. She is fluent in Mandarin and English.

- *What was the most interesting thing about working in microfinance in China?*

Microfinance is in a new stage of development in China. It is very interesting to see the challenges that a foreign company experiences as a lender – from the regulatory to the operation standpoints. Moreover, MicroCred China is a start-up. So one gets great exposures to all aspects of operation – from credit to system analysis. It is also interesting to do field work after two years in the corporate environment. Interacting with local borrowers really solidified the concept of microfinance for me.

- *What did you learn this year?*

I learned about microfinance lending methodology, Management Information System design, how to run a local marketing campaign - basically the operation of a microfinance institution in the Chinese context. And some Sichuanese and Spanish to get by in Sichuan and Mexico, where I trained.

