Microfinance

Enhancing the model through transparent communication

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Introduction

- Underprivileged people are not ideal customers for traditional banks
 - They lack collateral and the ability to fill out paperwork
 - Most banks take a picture of the customer and use a thumbprint for their signature
- Microfinance allocates loans in small amounts to low income clients
 - Credit, Insurance, Small to Medium Enterprise Loans, and Savings Accounts

Communication Breakdown

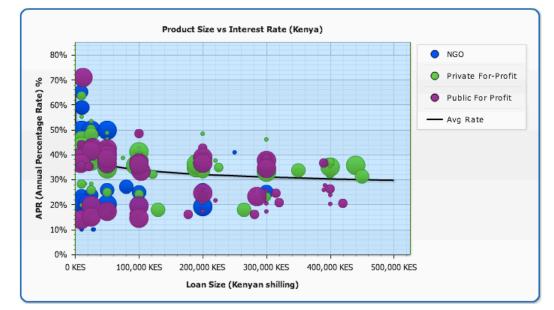
- Communication between various MicroFinance Institutions is difficult
 - Information on good and bad clients is not shared among MFIs
 - Lenders are often unaware if a client has an outstanding loan with another institution
- Asymmetric Information
 - Clients can use a loan from one institution to pay back another

Transparency

MFTransparency.org

- Enables transparent communication between suppliers and consumers of microcredit products.
- Develops straightforward educational materials to stakeholders to better understand interest rates and product pricing
- Primary goal is to provide essential information necessary for healthy free market conditions

Interest Rate and Loan Size



- Interest rates in Kenya based on loan size
 - Minimum of 10%, Average between 30-40%, Maximum of 70%

Conclusion

- Asymmetric Information is the most serious problem facing the microfinance industry
- The most successful types of MFIs hinge on complete communication
 - Vertical communication between lender and borrower
 - Horizontal communication between local and state institutions

Conclusion

- My focus is to establish a communication network between MFIs and their clients
- Institutions need to be reliable and trustworthy in order to secure additional funding
- Establishing a performance benchmark is the first step towards ranking MFIs based on success