

















IDH Introduction

Introducing to the Service Delivery Model (SDM)

Importance of Service Delivery

Agriculture plays a key role in the wellbeing of people and planet. 70% of the rural poor rely on the sector for income and employment. Agriculture also contributes to climate change, which threatens the long-term viability of global food supply. To earn adequate livelihoods without contributing to environmental degradation, farmers need access to affordable high-quality goods, services and technologies.

Service Delivery Models (SDMs) are supply chain structures which provide farmers with services such as training, access to inputs, finance and information. SDMs can sustainably increase the performance of farms while providing a business opportunity for the service provider.

A solid understanding of the relation between impact on the farmer and impact on the service provider's business brings new strategies for operating and funding service delivery, making the model more sustainable, less dependent on external funding and more commercially viable.

About this study

To accelerate this process, IDH is leveraging its strength as a convener of key public-private partnerships to gain better insight into the effectiveness of SDMs. IDH developed a systematic, data-driven approach to understand and improve these models. The approach makes the business case for service delivery to investors, service providers, and farmers. By further prototyping efficiency improvements in service delivery, IDH aims to catalyse innovations in service delivery that positively impact people, planet, and profit.

Thanks

IDH would like to express its sincere thanks to Musoni for their openness and willingness to partner through this study. By providing insight into their model and critical feedback on our approach, Musoni is helping to pave the way for service delivery that is beneficial and sustainable for farmers and providers.



















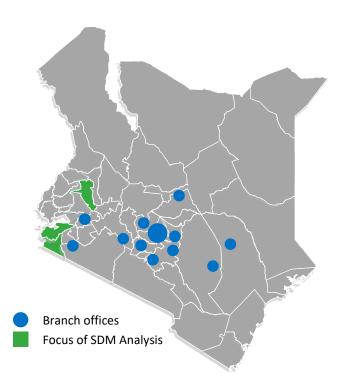
Musoni Introduction

As a completely cashless microfinance institution, Musoni is a pioneer in the digital lending space, with an expanding client based and broad, flexible loan product offering

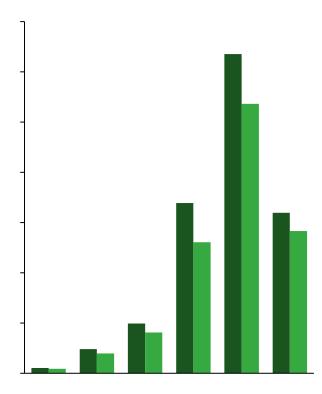
Company description 1)

- Musoni, established in 2010, is a completely cashless microfinance institution. The organization enables customers to receive and repay their loans via Safaricom's M-PESA system
- Musoni has grown quickly, with an extended network of 37 branches across Kenya
- Musoni seeks to create financial and social impact for women, youth and smallholder farmers through its broad portfolio of flexible lending products
- Based on a research partnership with Grameen Foundation, Musoni designed a loan product specifically for smallholder farmers, known as Kilimo Booster (kilimo meaning "agriculture" in Swahili), a loan product with flexible terms and a customizable grace period based on a farmer's seasonal cash flow
- As Musoni clients are required to have access to both a mobile phone and an M-PESA account, the widespread, near-ubiquitous nature of M-PESA platform in Kenya, and high levels of mobile phone access and connectivity, support Musoni's digital model and operations

Musoni has two branch offices close to the SDM ^{1) & 3)} Location of Musoni's branch offices and SDM area.



Covid-19 halted the exponential increase client and products²⁾
Kilimo loan portfolio of client and disbursals;



Sources: 1) Brand (2017); 2) Musoni Client-data (2015-2020); 3) PDC Data Sorghum / Maize













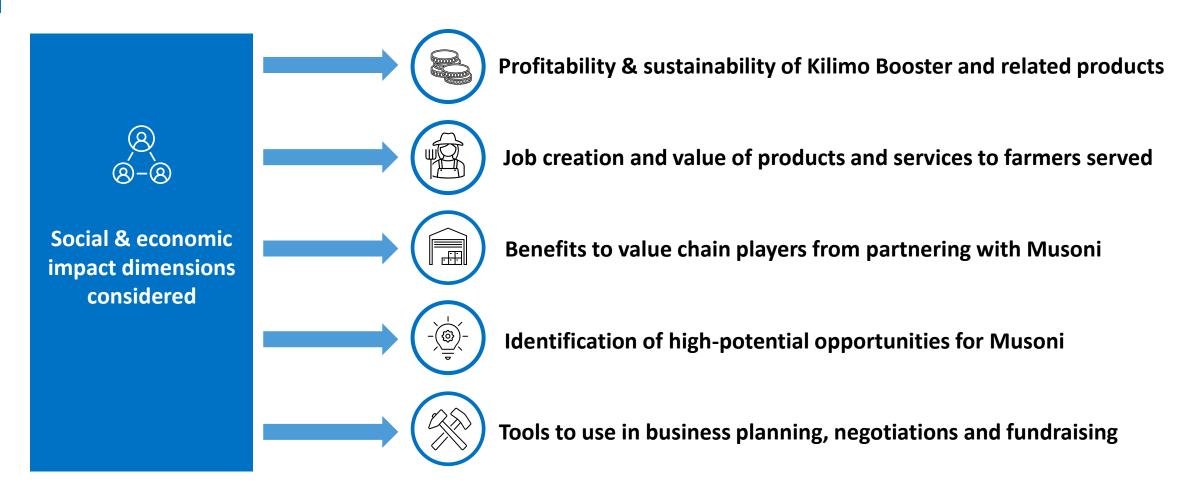






SDM objectives

The SDM process sought to assess Musoni's social and economic impact across a few potential dimensions, including impacts accruing to borrowers, employees, value chain partners, and the local community





















EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Impact and opportunity

















Executive summary – strengths and impact

Musoni has created substantial impact to date and has a strong platform to build on moving forward; farmers, particularly women and youth, value its services and funders continue to support the organization

As the first cashless MFI in Kenya and the first African MFI to be certified by the Center for Financial Inclusion's Smart campaign, Musoni has many strengths and has gained significant traction. In 2019, Musoni served ~31K farmers, including ~22K women and ~11K youth. Historically, Musoni has been differentiated by its promise of low cost, cashless convenience; accessibility and efficiency have been central to its value-proposition and survey feedback confirms that the organization delivers on both; on time payments, finance at a low cost, and high-quality services are seen as key strengths across segments.

While Musoni-specific farmer income uplift is difficult to attribute, **impact studies confirm the importance of accessible and affordable finance in building livelihoods and farmers state that they value Musoni's services and use loans to make critical productive investments.**

Adult men receive larger loans sizes on average, but this is largely due to better access to collateral and larger farms and men typically exhibit higher write-offs; Musoni aims to mitigate difficulties with access to credit for women and youth and actively invests in expanding impact and enhancing customer experience for these segments, both of whom see larger increases in loan size over their time with Musoni than Men. While female CLTV remains lower than male, increased scale will improve economics and tactical investments in increasing value-add (e.g. VCP relationships) could remedy discrepancies and improve economics; with 70%+ women borrowers, Musoni is a valuable platform for change.

Musoni's broad and flexible lending product offering, which includes Agricultural (Kilimo), Small business (Nawiri), Emergency (Wepesi), Asset, and Education loans, also appears well suited to its customer base, who typically earn income from two or more sources and actively state that they value access to loans tailored to diverse expenditure needs. Musoni's activities also support ~390 jobs directly, ~50% of which support the ag portfolio (staff count), in addition to indirectly supporting the livelihoods of its 31K ag borrowers, the 8K on-farm FTEs they hire, and up to ~25K jobs in part induced through the expenditure of both direct and indirect job support; this impact is expected to grow as Musoni expands its agriculture portfolio and broadens its engagement with other value chain players. As a result of these strengths, Musoni retains a strong brand; funders have observed the organization's successes and continue to actively support the its's ambitions to grow its agriculture portfolio, to which ~80%+ of grant value is committed.

















Executive summary - vision

With successful implementation, Musoni can become a more valuable player in the local ecosystem offering a deeper value-proposition to customers, while retaining quality customer service in its core lending business

TODAY

- Musoni has advanced digital operation, but loan officers remain heavily involved in origination and loan servicing processing, generating high costs, particularly for Kilimo Group loans
- Applications are insufficiently robust to limit credit / default risk without adequate human support limiting available labor hours for other value-added services
- With limited additional value-added services, disintermediation through further digitization could undermine strength of customer-Musoni relationship and reduce stickiness

TOMORROW

- Improved platform and risk assessment tools have reduced risk of lighter touch loan origination and servicing
- Loan officers with improved agricultural training spend time focused particularly challenging cases and offering value-added services, including agricultural training and value chain partnerships to borrowers
- Borrowers see value in Musoni's highly accessible lending platforms, but continue to engage in inperson interaction with the organization to benefit from its value-added services and ecosystem partnerships
- Economic and social value measurably increases across the economic system

















MUSONI'S OPERATING CONTEXT

Understanding Musoni's context and how this might impact the organization



















State of the sector

While the use of mobile phones and connectivity is significantly increasing, women and youth in rural areas remain financially constrained due to a lack of formal collateral, credit history, and existing debt.

State of the (digital) MFI sector

- Mobile phone access and connectivity are increasing significantly in Kenya with the number of unique mobile subscriptions reaching 90% of the population in 2018 ²⁾ (2015: 42%¹⁾), and 3G coverage of 85% of the population (2015: 19%¹⁾).
- Increase in mobile subscriptions and 3G coverage has boosted the use of digital financial service (DFS), with DFS diversifying from basic money transfer and bill payment to credit, savings, insurance, and other financial products. ¹¹⁾
- The increasing use of digital financial services (DFSs) has lead to a competitive market with multiple providers and resulted in borrowers shifting seamlessly between providers. ²⁾
- In Kenya their still remain groups of borrowers of whom financial needs are not met yet. These groups are an untapped opportunity to financial service providers, with an increased understanding of the borrowers' needs and characteristics.⁴⁾

Gender

- Women find it more challenging to access finance relative to men, due to limited financial literacy, physical access, lack of clarity of bank terms of access and the inability to provide collateral or personal guarantees.⁹⁾
- To increase the uptake of digital apps and digital finance solutions, MFIs should use text-free interfaces, women based examples, profiles without gender indication, increase confidence by providing training, and stimulate women leadership.

Youth

- Main reasons for youth to use digital services are obtaining market information on price, diseases and pest control, and farming techniques/practises, keeping records of yield, and communicating with other farmers.¹³⁾
- Youth (18- 34 years old) are mostly denied formal agricultural loans due to low savings, limited credit history, and current level of debt to repay.¹⁴⁾

COVID-19 effects on MFI sector

- By the end of 2020, the focus is shifting away from immediate liquidity needs and damage control to building a stronger and more resilient microfinance sector for the future.⁷⁾
- Portfolios will continue to be under stress as a result of lending to households with volatile income and no assets, and long-term economical effect due to COVID-19.8)
- The pandemic has shown the relevance of,⁷⁾
 - the establishment of new channels (e.g. platforms) through which clients are serviced and reached;
 - Increased importance of capacity of digitizing and managing customer data for example effective credit risk management and new product design;
 - product diversification to meet customers' demand and enhance loyalty;
 - flexible core IT and data management systems with shared IT solutions being a possible game changer.

Sources: 1) GSMA - industry (2019a); 2) Microsave (2019); 3) GSMA - gender (2019b); 4) FSD Kenya/CGAP (2020a); 5) FSD Kenya/CGAP (2020b); 6) AMFI (2018); 7) FinDev Gateway/CGAP (2020); 8) Odi (2020); 9) SNV (2018); 10) IFAD (2012); 11) AFPI (2018); 12) USAID WomenConnect (2021); 13) CGAP (2019); 14) FAO (2020)



















Enabling Environment | Maize / Sorghum

Although pressured by climate change, volatile prices, and limited transparency, the digitizing environment of Kenya, provides Musoni a fertile ground to develop its business and generate impact.

Definition	Situation	Impact on SDM	Definition	Situation	Impact on SDM	
Technology	 Due to repeated, high-frequency borrowing, digital loans are the single most common type of loan in use in Kenya.⁹⁾ Digital loans are predominantly used by youth (18 – 35 years) from urban areas, where youth and adult farmers in rural areas still mainly use informal sources of credit.⁹⁾ 	 Increase in adoption of digital credit increases potential customer-base for Musoni. 	Trading System	 Maize and sorghum reach markets through wholesalers and brokers, and are consumed domestically. Kenya is a net importer of both maize and sorghum, consecutively importing an additional 14% and 70% of its locally produced maize and sorghum in 2018.¹¹⁾ 	 Pivotal value-chains create a strong base to develop value-chain partnerships for product development. 	
Environment	 Kenya is highly reliant on rainfed agriculture. Erratic rainfall, coupled with severe droughts, is the biggest risk facing Kenya's agriculture sector, with profound impact crop production.³⁾ Pests and diseases are also a major concern. Improper use 	 Worsening and less predictable environment increase the risk of non- performing loans due 	Pricing & Competition	 Prices (especially for maize) vary seasonally. Farmers who can hold their produce can benefits of storage capacity. Few farmers have the means and infrastructure to do so and as a result lose out on higher incomes.³⁾ 	 Volatile prices increase the risk of farmers to default if prices go down. 	
	of agrochemicals continue to cause health and environmental issues. ³⁾	to lost harvest.		 Kenya has made significant political, structural and economic reforms that have largely driven sustained 	Stability and clear policies will increase	
Infrastructure	 Poor infrastructure result in high transactions costs for farmers and inaccessibility to input and output markets.⁴⁾ Kenya scores 4.3 (Sub Saharan Africa: 2.9) on the Infrastructure Index.¹⁰⁾ 	 Poor infrastructure puts pressure on profitability of SHF, and risk of default. 	Institutional Stability	economic growth, social development and political gains over the past decade. ⁷⁾ These reforms have resulted in the country's stable institutions.	effectivity and efficiency with which Musoni can operate.	
Labor	 The Kenyan economy is characterised by a large share of jobs in the informal sector including small scale farming. These constituted 83.6% of total employment in the country in 2018. 	 Development of jobs will decrease unemployment and possibly increase 	Land Tenure	 Costs related to registering land and acquiring titles are too high for most smallholders. Consequently, the majority of rural smallholders do not hold title deeds proving them as the rightful landowner.⁸⁾ 	 Increasing need for non-collateral depended credit- scoring mechanisms. 	
	 The monthly basic minimum wage for unskilled labour in the agricultural sector is KES 6,736 (USD 67).⁵⁾ 	food security.		 In Kenya, women are highly involved in the agricultural workforce, though, mostly in harvesting as this is a 	 Increasing need for financial training for 	
Inputs & Financing	 Only 4% of the Kenya's total credit is channelled to agriculture. Lack of collateral to access credit has resulted to poor inputs access, low productivity and low income for the SHFs.⁶⁾ 	 Increasing need for non-collateral depended credit- scoring mechanisms. 	Social Norms	generally, low-earning farming activity. This is in addition to their traditional domestic responsibilities. ⁸⁾ • Women's access to schools and healthcare is limited ⁸⁾ , with only 48% having access to primary school. ¹²⁾	good product use and adoption.	

Sources: 1) GSMA - industry (2019a); 2) Microsave (2019); 3) World Bank (2015); 4) FAO (2013); 5) KNBS (2020); 6) Centre for Financial Inclusion (2017); 7) World Bank (2020); 8) Africa research institute (2017); 9) FSD Kenya (2019); 10) World Bank (2020); 11) FAOstat (2018); 12) KNBS (2014);











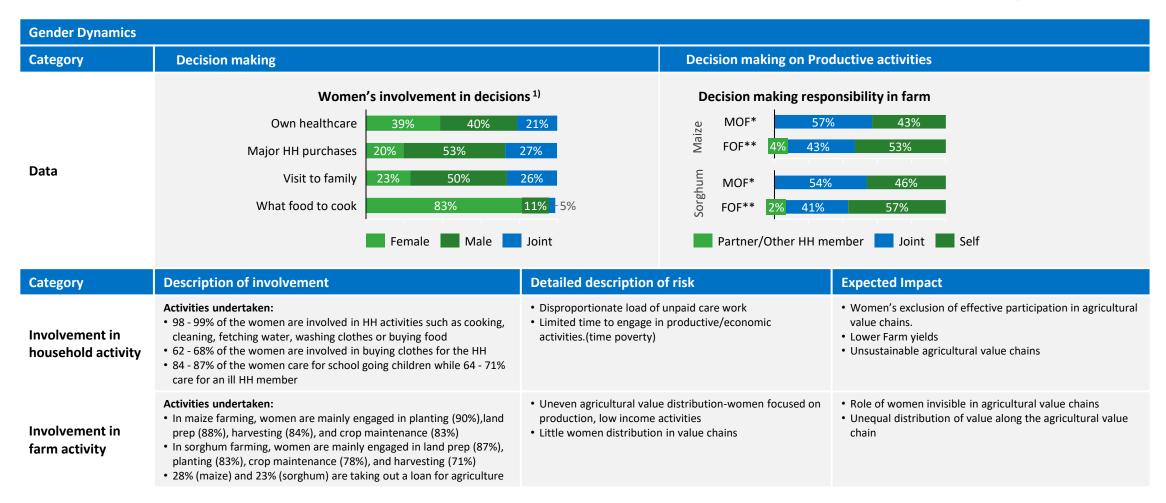






Gender | Maize / Sorghum

Although the majority of women are self-responsible for farm-related decisions, their involvement in farm activities is still limited to low-income activities such as land preparation and harvesting.



Sources: 1) KNBS (2014);

* Male owned Farm, ** Female owned Farm











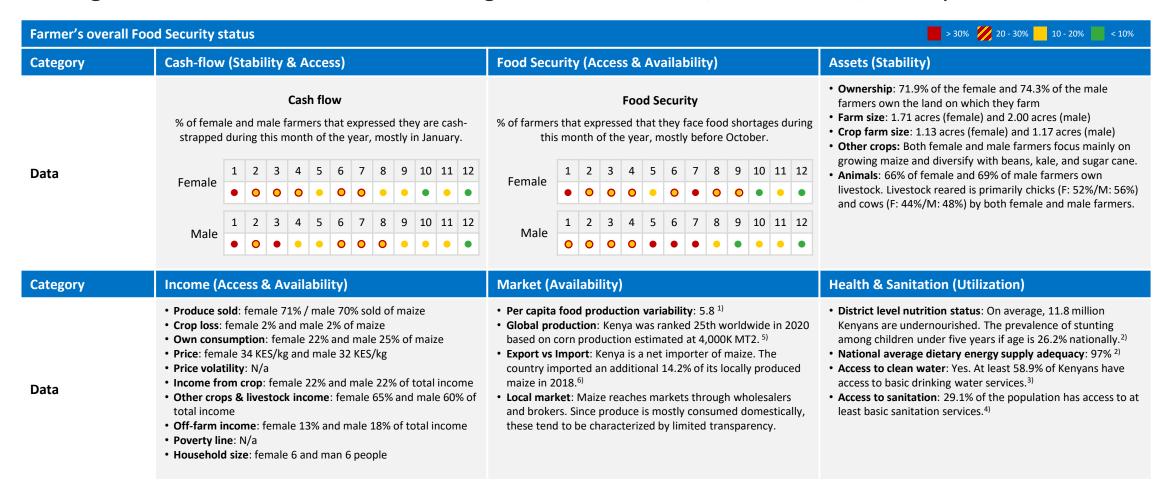






Food Security | Eldoret

Maize farmers in Eldoret face both cash and food shortage mimicked to the harvest calendar, with a high shortage in the first half and limited shortage in the second half, harvest-time, of the year.



Sources: All data from farmer PDC except specified otherwise; 1) FAOstat (2015); 2) FAOstat (2017-2019); 3) IndexMundi (2019a); 4) IndexMundi (2019b); 5) World Agriculture Production (2021); 6) FAOstat (2018);















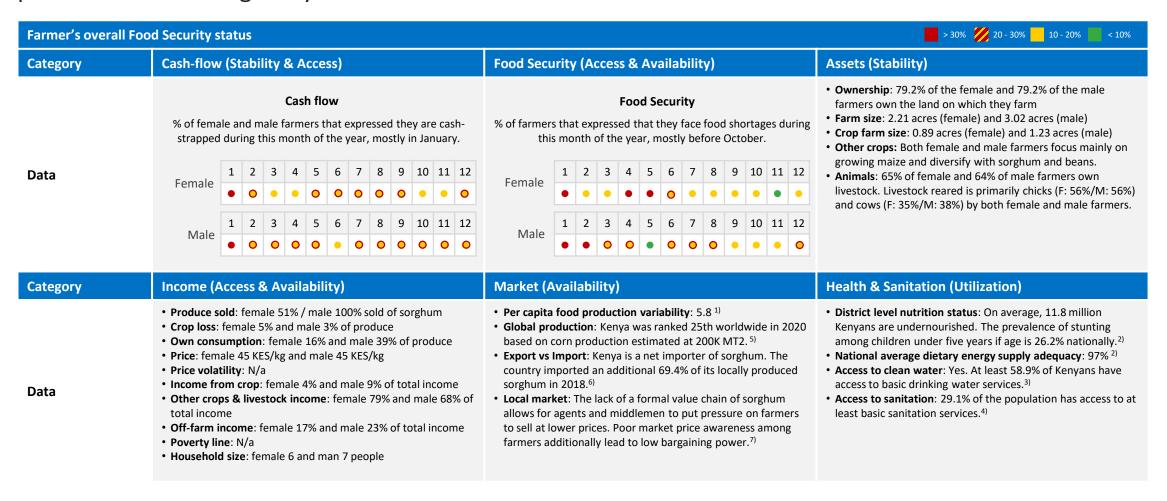






Food Security | Homa-Bay / Migori

Although Sorghum farmer in Homa-Bay perceive food shortage less around the harvest period, they perceive cash shortage all year around.



Sources: All data from farmer PDC except specified otherwise; 1) FAOstat (2015); 2) FAOstat (2017-2019); 3) IndexMundi (2019a); 4) IndexMundi (2019b); 5) World Agriculture Production (2021); 6) FAOstat (2018); 7) ICRSAT (2017);



















Food Security | Musoni clients

Baseline clients perceive less cash flow and food shortage around the harvest period compared to Musoni clients, suggesting that loan repayments dampen the perceived abundance of cash and food.

Farmer's overall Food Security status									> 30% // 20 - 30% 10 - 20% // < 10%																		
Category	Cash-flow	v (St	tabi	ility	& <i>A</i>	Acce	ss)							Food Security (Access & Availability)						Assets (Stability)							
	% of farme			•		•	are			•	d du	ring th	nis	% of farmers		it exp		sed t		they	fac	e fo			_	s du	 Ownership: 63% of the Baseline and 81% of the Musoni farmers own the land on which they farm Farm size: 1.6 acres (Baseline) and 2.3 acres (Musoni) Crop farm size: 1.0 acres (Baseline) and 1.2 acres (Musoni) Other crops: Both Baseline and Musoni farmers focus mainly on growing beans and kale.
Data	Baseline	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11 1	12	Baseline	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	3 9	9 :	.0	11	Animals: 69% of Baseline and 64% of Musoni farmers own livestock. Livestock reared is primarily chicks (B: 49%/M: 56%) and cows (F: 46%/M: 40%) by both Baseline and Musoni
	Musoni	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11 1	12	Musoni	1	2	3	4	5	6	-		3 9	2	.0	11	farmers.

Sources: All data from farmer PDC except specified otherwise; 1) FAOstat (2015); 2) FAOstat (2017-2019); 3) IndexMundi (2019a); 4) IndexMundi (2019b); 5) World Agriculture Production (2021); 6) FAOstat (2018); 7) ICRSAT (2017);



















Climate Resilience | Eldoret

Change in consecutive days of moisture stress changes the distribution, onset, and cessation of rainfall seasons making it increasingly difficult to plan agricultural operations.

Farmer ser	Farmer sensitivity and exposure to Exposure Det			tailed descr	iption of risl	(Sensitivity		Expected impact	
Changing to	emperatures	Medium	 Current tempera increase of 0.5°C temperatures res 	and 0.3°C in	•			High	new disea	prevalence of pests and diseases and emergence of se and pest types ess due to droughts and floods affect yield	
Changing rainfall patterns and soil conditions		High	change in consec distribution, onse	ase in precipitation in the wet season and consecutive days of moisture stress changes the conset, and cessation of rainfall seasons making the difficult to plan agricultural operations. 1)				High	Higher inciIncrease inIncreasing	se in the reliable cropping days incidences of crop failure e in post-harvest los due to increased rotting ing need to invest in modern land preparation equipment, e access to high quality inputs, and training on GAP. stress due to droughts and floods affect yield destroy crops, erode the soil and limit farm and market billity due to damage to the infrastructure	
Frequent o	climate extremes	Medium	 Increase in the free events like rainfa 	requency of intense extreme weather all and floods. 1)				Medium • Floods			
Farmer ad	aptive capacity										
Category	Climate issues faced			Coping mo	echanisms					Region	
Data	Climate issues faced in El % of participants 64% 25% Changes Droughts Heat w. in rain (temper patterns rise	11% aves Floods H ature	32% 10% lail storms No crop loss			22% Savings or assets	7% Agriculturinputs	2% al Specific forms of comm.	22% Techniques learned in a training	Eldoret	

Sources: All data from farmer PDC except specified otherwise; 1) CGAIR (2018); 2) N of Eldoret = 295; 3) N of Eldoret = 221; 4) Percentage shown in the graph may exceed 100%, due to multiple selection of answers.



All rights reserved













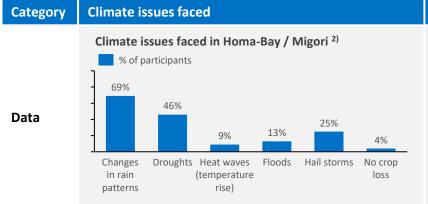


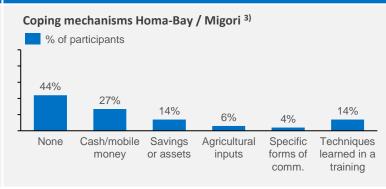


Climate Resilience | Homa-Bay / Migori

Intensifying rainfall, increasing frequency of floods, and less reliable cropping days increased the risk of crop loss resulting in farmers going default on loan payments.

Farmer sensitivity and exposure to Exposure Deta			Detailed description of risk	Sensitivity		Expected impact		
Changing te	emperatures	Medium	• Future climatic predictions indicate possible annual temperature increase of 0.4°C between 2021-2065.1)	High	new disea	prevalence of pests and diseases and emergence of se and pest types ess due to droughts and floods affect yield		
Changing ra	ainfall patterns and soil	High	 Increase in precipitation of 0.7% and 3% in the first and second wet season, and change in consecutive days of moisture stress changes the distribution, onset, and cessation of rainfall seasons make it increasingly difficult to plan agricultural operations.¹⁾ 	High	 Decrease in the reliable cropping days Higher incidences of crop failure Increase in post-harvest los due to increased rotting Increasing need to invest in drainage and irrigation structures, storing techniques, and training on GAP. 			
Frequent climate extremes Mediu		Medium	\bullet The intense extreme weather events like rainfall and floods will become more frequent. $^{1)}$	Medium	• Floods des	ess due to droughts and floods affect yield stroy crops, erode the soil and limit farm and market by due to damage to the infrastructure		
Farmer ada	aptive capacity							
Category	Climate issues faced		Coping mechanisms	Coping mechanisms				
	Climate issues faced in He % of participants	oma-Bay / Mig	Coping mechanisms Homa-Bay / Migori % of participants	Coping mechanisms Homa-Bay / Migori ³⁾ % of participants				





Migori

Sources: All data from farmer PDC except specified otherwise; 1) CGAIR (2016); 2) N of Homa-Bay/Migori = 172; 3) N of Homa-Bay/Migori = 158; 4) Percentage shown in the graph may exceed 100%, due to multiple selection of answers.



















BUSINESS MODEL OVERVIEW

Understanding Musoni's vision and how the organization has evolved



















Vision

Musoni is the first cashless MFI in Kenya offering affordable lending services to women, men and youth farmers through a light touch and accessible digital lending model

Musoni aims to maximize the potential of the businesses of the low income and unbanked of Kenya through the provision of digital, affordable and customer-oriented financial services. Musoni has a strong focus on **Overall aims** microenterprise, women, youth and smallholder farmers. Young men Adult Adult men **Farmer segments** (<35) women farmers served farmers farmers **Agriculture products Cross- sold products** • Loans to purchase inputs / make farm improvements (Kilimo) Education loans **Products** Emergency loans (Wepesi) Agricultural asset loans

© IDH 2021 |

All rights reserved

Funds specifically Key elements of available for value-add agricultural investments

Digital solution to drive ability to scale and increase accessibility

Serve inter-related. under-served stakeholders

Business Ioans (Nawiri/Stawi)

Products offered cater to different life needs

Young

women

(<35)

farmers













Other asset loans

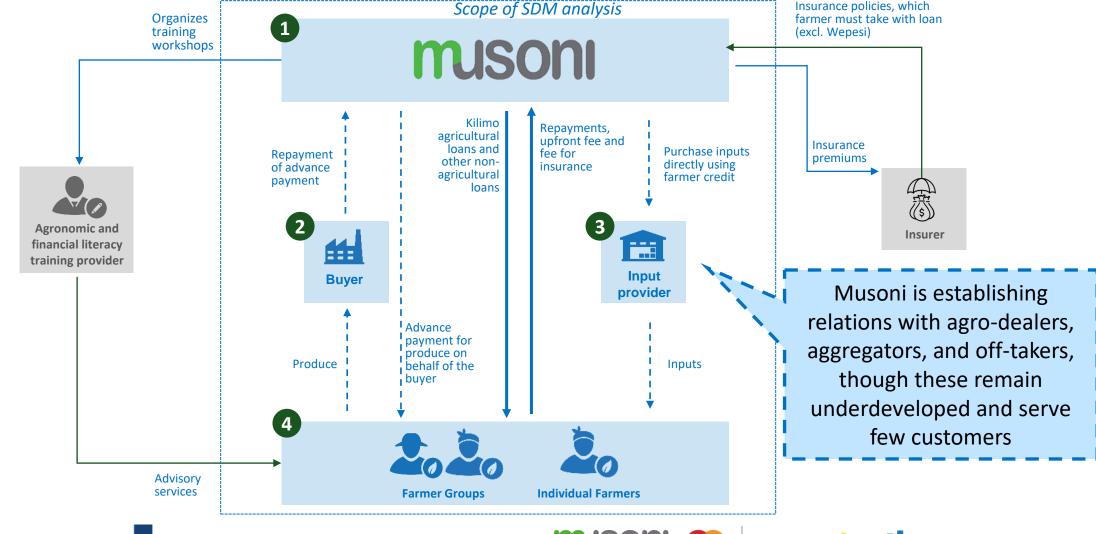






Service delivery model

Today Musoni's business primarily focuses on a suite of loans made directly to farmers and small businesses; while Value Chain Players have a small role, relationships are underdeveloped and serve few borrowers



© IDH 2021 |

All rights reserved













Achievements to date

Musoni has had considerable success in growing its business and extending its impact, serving more than 30K farmers in 2019

Musoni is the first 100% cashless MFI in Kenya

Musoni In 2019 (Ag portfolio)

First East
African MFI to
be certified
by the Smart
campaign*



Reached 31k
farmers, of
which 22k
female and 11k
youths.



Disbursed **106k** loans equivalent to approx. **\$18m**.



Disbursed **32k**Kilimo loans, of which **23k** went to women.

*Note: The Smart Campaign is the Center for Financial Inclusion's program to support increased consumer protection for low-income borrowers.





















Musoni's evolution

As the digital lending industry has grown, Musoni has sought to scale and refine its business model with a focus on efficient and accessible loan delivery; moving forward resilience and differentiation are priorities

Ideation as a fully digital MFI

2010-2014

- Musoni was established in 2010 with the aim of being an innovative digital MFI using the latest technology and data analytics. It included the following elements:
- Simple, affordable mobile finance for under-served and unbanked people
- Digital business model for a more sustainable credit product that was easily accessible

Optimizing & Scaling

2015-2020

- Musoni sought to optimize its products to cater to client needs and to scale its offering. It included the following elements:
- Agriculture products (Kilimo Booster)
 were developed to meet farmer needs
 including flexible repayment periods
 to match crop cycles
- Continuous refinement of its products with a focus on accessibility and deeper digitization
- Partnerships with organizations such as USAID and RAFFL to support sustainable growth and scaling

Optimizing and deepening the offering 2021 onwards

- Musoni is currently focused on building and deepening relationships with VCPs and growing its agriculture portfolio
- It is investing in further digitalization particularly around improving the group loans application loans and improving borrower cash flow visibility
- Selected loan products are to be restructured (e.g., Wepesi) and controls enhance to address recent increases in restructurings and instances of improper loan usage



















CUSTOMER BORROWING BEHAVIOR

Understanding customer loan taking behavior















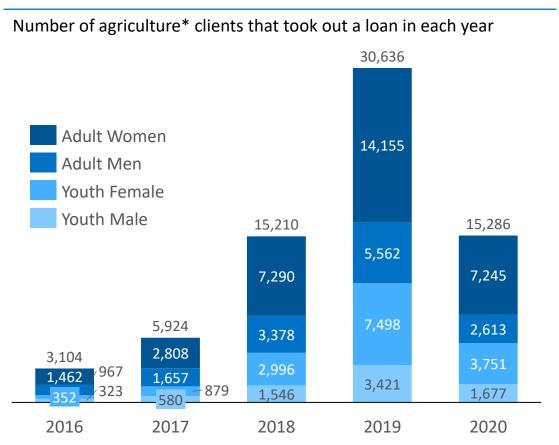




Active customer growth

Musoni exhibited rapid growth in its customer base from 2016-2019, before a COVID-driven drop in 2020; Female borrowers, both Adult and Youth grew ~10X over the period as Musoni expanded its operations

Number of active clients 2016-2020



- Musoni has achieved significant growth in active customers since 2016
- Adult and youth women have grown particularly quickly during this time
- However, COVID-19 had a clear impact with a sharp fall in the number of active customers across all segments in 2020
- The number of active customers in 2020 has trended back towards 2018 levels

Increase in clients 2016-2019

Adult female	Adult male	Youth female	Youth male
8.5x	4.7x	20x	9.5x

Note: *Agriculture clients are borrowers that typically take out agricultural loans

















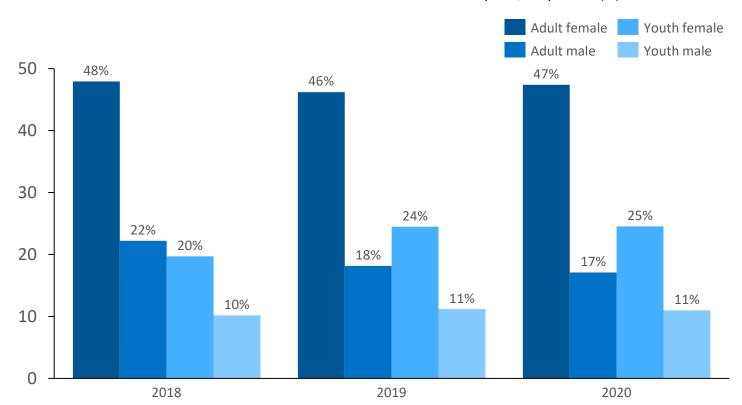


Agriculture portfolio by segment

Despite COVID volatility in 2020, since 2018 women have consistently constituted 70%+ of Musoni's agriculture borrower base and outnumber men 2:1 in both age cohorts; youth (<35) constitute ~30-35% of customers

Proportion of total borrowers by persona

Borrowers refer to individuals that have received loans in the observed years; Proportion (%) 2018 - 2020



- Musoni's group lending focus, loan flexibility, and intentional female recruitment has succeeded in attracting Women and Youth borrowers to the platform's agricultural lending products
- For both the Adult and the Youth (<35 years) cohorts, women are overrepresented 2:1 relative to men
- Strong relationships with a sizeable female customer base continue to make Musoni a valuable partner in for agriculture-related gender initiatives in Kenya

Note: Adults are individuals above the age of 35 years and youth fall between 18 and 35 years Source: Musoni Agriculture Clients Loan File, Dalberg Analysis, 2021



© IDH 2021 |

All rights reserved

















Borrower behavior – *summary takeaways*

Overall, Musoni's product offering has been successful in attracting customers and delivering services to women and youth; borrower behavior suggests that moving forward, enhanced focus on product differentiation and loan structuring and monitoring may be key







Gender

- Musoni serves a broad ag customer base; 70%+ of Musoni's clients are women, 30%+ youth
- Across loan types, women receive smaller loans; men exhibit higher write off ratios
- Overall, Musoni has succeeded in attracting and serving female and youth borrowers and women may see relatively higher financial access benefits than men

Differentiation

- Churn rates have increased recently and are consistently higher for male borrowers
- **Investment in offerings that** improve the customer experience or enhance value add for farmers may become increasingly important to improve stickiness and extend lifetime value

Product optimization

- In 2019, Wepesi loans were taken out by 50%+ of borrowers, 4+ times a year on average indicating clear demand for shorter term, small denomination loans
- However, as loans were not always optimally used, a deeper focus on understanding borrower cash flow and optimizing loan approval and structuring could help optimize the offering

















IMPACT TODAY

Assessing the financial sustainability and impact of Musoni's current business model

Financial performance – P&L, CLTV, and financing

Farmer performance – Financial and social impact

Employment creation – Direct and indirect employment support



















Musoni financial performance (Ag P&L and CLTV) - summary

The analysis unearthed opportunity areas for Musoni to improve future profitability and borrower impact, particularly for women and youth

	Opportunities from profitability analysis
Customer growth	Musoni's profitability is highly dependent on customer and loan size growth. Given that Musoni lost some customers in 2020, there is a need to continue to target customer acquisition
Profitable loan products	Given its profitability, Musoni could consider increasing loan disbursements of the Kilimo individual loan especially among female borrowers who have better write-offs, though proper structuring and diligence would be required
Affordable interest expense	Musoni could consider accessing concessional debt to reduce interest expenses and realize higher lending margins
Staff costs	Given that staff costs are one of the highest contributors to the staff losses, Musoni could accelerate its digitization efforts to faster reduce the variable costs that grow with loan disbursals

	Opportunities from CLTV analysis								
Women youth and lifetime	While Adult men present a higher CLTV today, given the higher levels of customer loyalty among female borrowers and youth, Musoni should seek opportunities to improve economic value for these segments to both enhance impact and potentially support higher loan sizes and associated income in the future								
Default costs	There may be an opportunity for Musoni to better tailor the customer trainings and initiatives amongst male borrowers to reduce their write-offs; improved cash flow visibility would help								
Servicing and retention costs	An opportunity exists for Musoni to leverage digital loan processing solutions to lower costs per borrower, though this must be done prudently to ensure appropriate diligence								

Source: Dalberg Analysis, 2021



















IMPACT TODAY

Assessing the financial sustainability and impact of Musoni's current business model

Financial performance – P&L, CLTV, and financing

Farmer performance – Financial and social impact

Employment creation – Direct and indirect employment support



















Farmer performance

While the ubiquity of similar financial services makes measurable economic uplift challenging to attribute, Musoni's service offering clearly creates value; it improves access to credit for women and youth, provides the flexibility needed to support varied income generating activities, and improves livelihoods

Access to finance: Women and youth exhibit higher increases in borrowing activity over time with Musoni relative to men and state the importance of the flexibility and accessibility of its services

Farmer economics: While it is difficult to attribute Musoni-specific economic uplift for farmers, many farmers see Musoni's services as a critical input into their businesses, enabling incremental investment in inputs, labor, and income smoothing

Livelihoods: Farmers and particularly women also cite improvements in their livelihoods attributable to Musoni, including improved access to education for their children, modern housing structures and better storage facilities for clean water



Source: Musoni SDM, IDH and Dalberg Analysis, 2021

















Access to credit

Borrower focus groups and farmer survey responses confirm the value of Musoni's services in supporting economic ambitions - Musoni has provided valuable capital needed to start and expand business operations

Business start-up



- Through internal initiatives and partnerships with organizations such as Seed of Hope, Musoni has provided loans to youth borrowers to start their businesses
- Youth borrowers report that they had limited access to finance before they received Nawiri and Asset loans from Musoni

Business expansion



- Musoni borrowers report that the loans have been crucial in providing capital funds to expand their business and working capital to support ongoing operations
- Youth borrowers in Migori stated that the Asset loans have enabled them to purchase motorcycles with each repayment and one is now purchasing a bus

Farm improvement



- Across geographies, farmers have reported using the Musoni loans to purchase high quality farming inputs including seeds, fertilizers and pesticides. On average, a Musoni funded farmer spent KES 7,556 on inputs
- Farmers have also used the loans to purchase farm improvement assets such as water tanks, livestock and mechanization tools

Job creation



- The business and farm expansion realized from accessing Musoni loans have enabled borrowers and farmers to increase number of employees and labor in their activities'
- One female borrower cited that Musoni enabled her to start a clothing retail business and with continued loan repayment she has now hired 4 more employees

Source: Musoni SDM, Focus Group Discussions and Surveys, 2021; Musoni Social Media Pages, Client testimonials, 2021





















Access to credit

Commendable customer service, structured interest rates, flexible repayments and the availability of short term Wepesi loans have all been cited by farmers as key reasons for choosing Musoni

Value proposition and differentiation

Musoni operates in a competitive market with key competitors including Kenya Women, ECLOF, Juhudi Kilimo, Faulu and SMEP. Several key strengths and points of differentiation allow Musoni to attract customers and compete in this environment:



Cashless

- Digital lending that enables lenders to repay loans in any day and time
- Musoni has received positive customer feedback from the digital lending process, and they believe that continued use of Fintech is additive and valuable for the company and its customers



Customer service

Borrowers state that Musoni has commendable customer service with staff members that are respectful and collaborative in the loan processing and repayment stages and offer friendly incentives or messages in special holidays including International Women's Day and Customer service week, among others



Clear financial terms

Borrowers report that Musoni clearly communicates its repayment schedule, with fixed payment, declining balance interest rates with no hidden fees



© IDH 2021 |

Shorter turn around time

 Musoni has a shorter turnaround time compared to its competitors. Musoni loans typically take 72 hours to disburse while ECLOF takes 1 week



Flexible repayments

 Musoni has flexible repayment structures that allows some borrowers to pay monthly as opposed to weekly, while also restructuring repayment terms for borrowers in arrears



Stability

 Strong partnerships and working history with organizations like Grameen Foundation help provide stability that increases customer trust in the organization

Source: Musoni SDM, Focus Group Discussions, 2021

















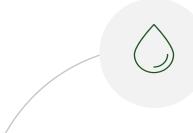


Standards of living

Borrowers report that access to credit from Musoni has helped to improve standards of living, quality of life and self-esteem, confirming evidence in the literature that as part of an ecosystem of MFIs, Musoni's model is critical in supporting valuable economic activity

Modern housing

Across focus group discussions and client testimonials, farmers haver reported that proceeds from Musoni loans, have enabled them to improve from traditional, thatched structures to modern houses





Musoni loans have enabled famers to access water tanks and other storage facilities that allow them to store clean water and improve their sanitary standards





Standards of living



- Musoni's financial and digital training have progressively built the literacy of its borrowers and their communities
- Additionally, the education loans have progressed the literacy levels of borrowers and their children, effectively improving their standards of living and knowledge



Independence

- Access and use of Musoni loans have enabled women and youth borrowers to develop financial independence and reduce reliance on others
- As reported, the realized financial independence builds the self-esteem and dignity of the borrowers

Source: Musoni SDM, Focus Group Discussions and Surveys, 2021













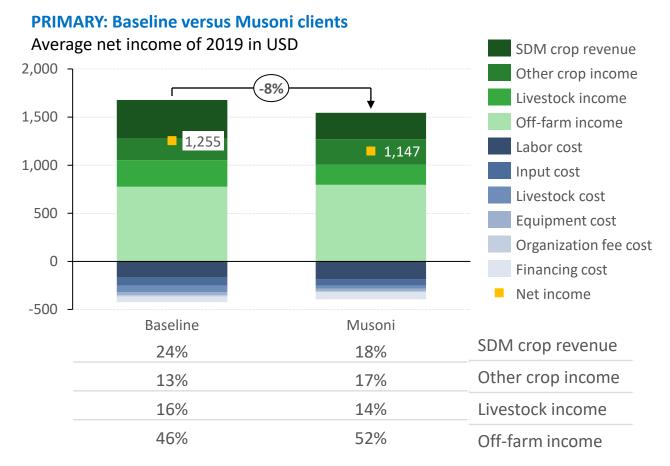






Farmer economics

Musoni's varied and flexible product portfolio is well suited to support the diverse income streams of its borrower base; however, there appears to be little discernible income uplift associated specifically with retaining Musoni's services



- Farming income, including income from the farmer's primary crop, other crops and livestock, accounted for approximately half of the total income earned by both Baseline and Musoni customers
- Whilst the P&I's show that both Baseline and Musoni customers earned a positive net-income in 2019, the average net income for Musoni customers was 8% lower than the Baseline customers, making it challenging to attribute economic uplift to unique features of Musoni's business model
- Similarly, survey outputs shows marginal differences in yields of Baseline and Musoni farmers across maize and sorghum value chains

^{*}SDM – Service Delivery Model

















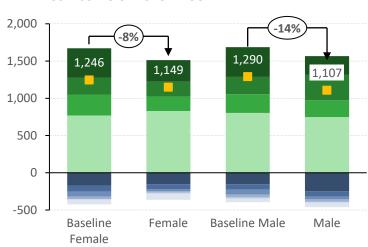


Farmer economics

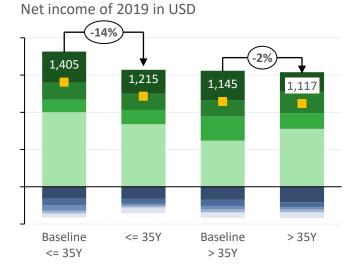
The story changes little when analysed by segment; Musoni specific income uplift appears limited across key customer segments

GENDER: (Baseline) Female and (Baseline) Male

Net income of 2019 in USD



AGE: (Baseline) Youth and (Baseline) Adult



SDM crop revenue Net income of 2019 in USD Other crop income Livestock income Off-farm income 1,328 1,214 Labor cost 932 Input cost 643 Livestock cost Equipment cost Organization fee cost Financing cost Net income Baseline Eldoret Baseline Migori / HB Migori / HB Eldoret

Discussion

 Female Musoni customers have a marginally higher performance than their male counterparts.

24%	19%	24%	16%
13%	13%	14%	22%
17%	13%	15%	14%
46%	55%	48%	48%

Discussion

 Both Baseline Youth and Adult customers appear to have a higher performance than their Musoni counterparts.

23%	20%	25%	17%
13%	14%	14%	19%
9%	12%	21%	14%
55%	54%	40%	51%

Discussion

 Both Baseline and Musoni customers in Eldoret have higher income compared to customers from Migori and Homa-Bay counties.

CROP / REGION: (Baseline) County

23%	20%	6%	7%	SDM crop revenue
13%	16%	19%	21%	Other crop income
16%	16%	19%	11%	Livestock income
47%	48%	56%	61%	Off-farm income

















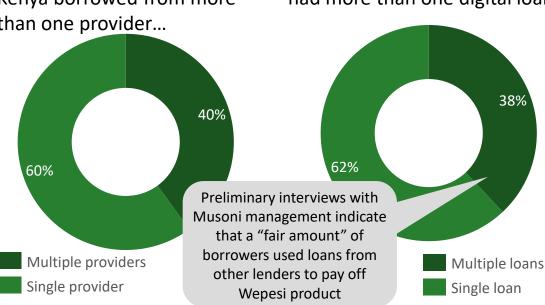
Competition and commoditization

While Musoni's business model may offer attractive customer service and flexibility, substitute loan products are increasingly available elsewhere

Already in 2017, the relative ease of switching digital lenders meant that ...

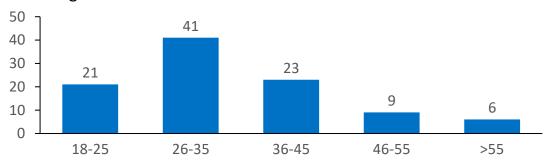
40% of digital borrowers in Kenya borrowed from more than one provider...

...and **62%** of digital borrowers had more than one digital loan.



Higher digital adoption by youth means ease of switching will only increase

Age distribution of digital borrowers in 2017 - Kenya Percentage of total



- The digital credit landscape is expanding rapidly; more than 50 fintech companies entered the market since 2016
- Regular digital borrowers are less loyal to their initial provider and shift more easily between products and providers
- → As the digital lending market becomes more competitive and commoditized, relative cost advantages of a "cashless" business model are reduced; opportunities for Musoni to differentiate may depend increasingly on tighter loan structuring and monitoring and provision of other value-added services

Sources: "Making Digital Credit Truly Responsible" (2019) by Microsave consulting; Survey carried out by FSD Kenya. "The Digital Credit Revolution in Kenya: an assessment of market demand 5 years on".



















IMPACT TODAY

Assessing the financial sustainability and impact of Musoni's current business model

Financial performance – P&L, CLTV, and financing

Farmer performance – Financial and social impact

Employment creation – Direct and indirect employment



















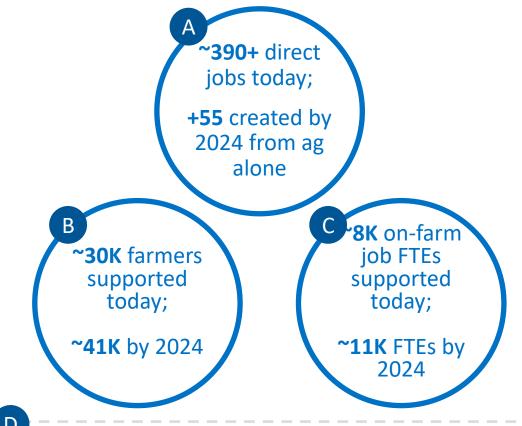
Employment creation

Musoni also generates impact by both supporting jobs today and creating them in the future; in 2019 alone, Musoni supported 390+ jobs directly and ~40K FTE jobs through its direct support of farmers and the laborers

hired on their farms*

- Today Musoni supports ~390 FTE jobs directly through its own hiring (ag and non ag), up from ~150 in 2015 (net job creation = ~240); gender balance is roughly even in aggregate and genderbased hiring initiatives are in place, though men disproportionately occupy executive positions
- While Musoni's relatively narrow service offering obscures measurement of job creation uplift, its agricultural services are valued and support ~30K farmers + ~8K on-farm labor FTEs today, increasing to 41K farmers and up to ~11K on farm FTEs by 2024 in the Baseline forecast; while unmeasured, additional jobs are also likely created through non-ag lending
- Musoni's economic activity also generates value; expenditure on inputs and other non-staff costs help stimulate local economies and create additional indirect jobs; up to 25K additional jobs may be in part induced by Musoni's activities.

*Throughout the document, jobs "supported" refers to total jobs related to Musoni's economic activities (a stock variable); jobs "generated" is used only in reference to prospective jobs created by activities over time (a flow variable)



Additional jobs generated through non-ag business lending and as a by-product of Musoni's economic activity (up to ~25K) in the community













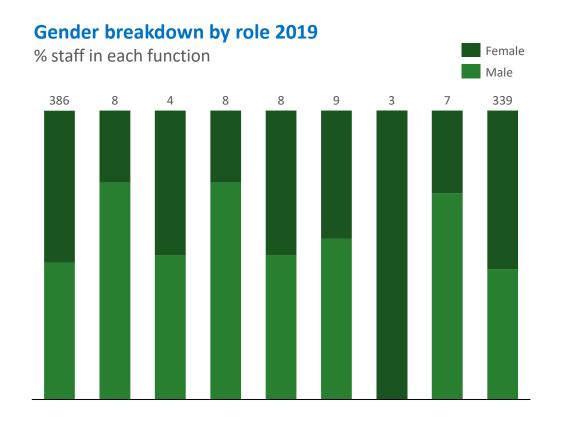




A

Direct employment creation – gender

While Musoni has created a roughly equal number of jobs for men and women, men hold the majority of HQ and executive roles



- Musoni has increased its share of female employment from 47% in 2015 to 53% in 2019, striking a roughly even gender balance on aggregate in jobs created
- However, these statistics obscure a compositional difference by role; 70%+ of HQ roles, including executive roles, IT and finance are dominated by men; HR is the single exception
- Musoni is cognizant of the gender imbalance in management and has set hiring targets for women employees. Musoni targets include women comprising 70% of loan officers, 40% of mid-level managers and 50% of executives
- Musoni also has sound internal policies and mitigations to tackle sexual harassment and gender-based violence among its staff and clients



















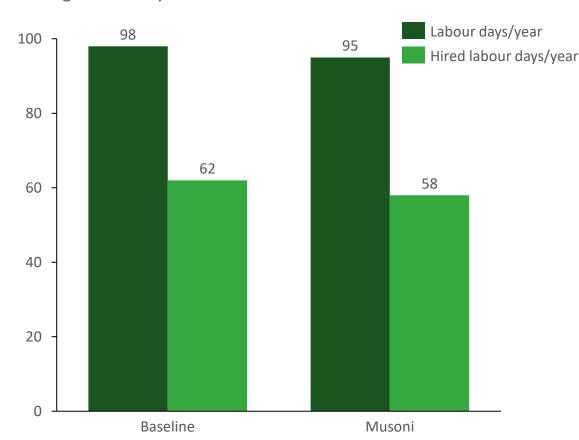


On-farm employment creation

Given the ready availability of credit in Kenya, as with income uplift, measuring on farm employment creation attributable to Musoni is challenging; survey responses don't evidence material uplift

Borrower labor utilization: baseline relative to Musoni clients

Average labour days and hired labour in 2019



- Across respondents, hired labor days constitute ~60% of total on famer labor days; 40% is provided either by the farmer him / herself or by family members
- Survey responses suggest that borrowers that have been with Musoni for fewer than 3 months use roughly the same number of labor days per year than longer-term Musoni borrowers, suggesting time with Musoni is not a meaningful driver of on-farm hiring
- While borrowers state they value access to Musoni because of the capacity it provides to make business investments, much as with income uplift, availability of other options confounds attribution

Outliers excluded if cost of labour/day < 100 and > 1,000 KES per labourer.



















On-farm employment creation

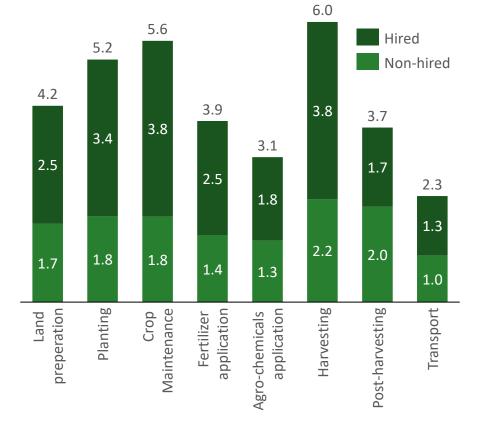
However, Musoni is clearly a valuable source of business support for farmers whose agricultural activity supports an estimated ~40K FTEs; additional employment is likely supported through borrower's nonagricultural activities

Observation	2019	2022	2023	2024
Number of agriculture borrowers (Baseline forecast)				
On-farm hired labor days per borrower				
Labor days per FTE				
FTEs supported (Baseline forecast)	7.9K	8.9K	9.6K	10.7K
TOTAL jobs supported	39K	43K	47K	52K

- Assuming 230 labor days = 1 FTE, Musoni's on-farm hiring yielded 8K FTEs in 2019, increasing to ~11K by 2024 in the Baseline case. Including farmers supported, Musoni supports 40-50K FTEs p.a..
- As shown on the right, non-hired labor is also used, and on-farm work is split roughly evenly across a variety of tasks
- Additional jobs are likely supported through non-ag borrowing, though they have not been quantified in this study

On-farm job creation

Laborers used by function per year - hired and nonhired, 2019





















All rights reserved

Economic activity and job creation

Musoni's economic activity also likely supports job creation and as Musoni explores deeper relationships with value chain players the potential to enhance Musoni-specific job creation and increase systemwide

effects will accelerate

- Musoni's economic activity also likely supports indirect employment creation; in 2019, Musoni directly spent on non-staff expenses that created demand for local services; Musoni farmers on the other hand spent on inputs and equipment, further increasing indirect job creation along the value chain
- As the organization explores opportunities to build deeper and broader relationships with aggregators, off-takers, and agro-dealers, the job creation impact could increase further
- Enhanced farmer scale and productivity could generate additional onfarm employment, and increased aggregator and supplier scale from working with Musoni borrowers could accelerate VCP hiring
- Increases in broad economic activity associated with a higher-efficiency value chain would also have knock-on employment effects from higher incomes and associated consumption expenditure increases

















Economic activity and job creation

A 2017 study by CDC* estimated that each direct job created in developing economies is linked to 5+ additional jobs created along the value chain and 2+ jobs induced through employee expenditure

- In a sample of 484 African and South Asian businesses, CDC found that for every direct job created by a business, 5.5 additional jobs were created along the value chain and 2.4 jobs were created as a byproduct of increased expenditure from the wages of direct employees (induced employment)*.
- The estimates provide a sense of the expanding scope for impact; assuming the findings hold for Musoni, the organization's ~390 hires today also create impact by supporting up to ~970 local jobs via expenditure in the local community and today's 11K on farm FTEs supported by Musoni's farmers, induce up to 25K additional jobs in the community
- If, with new initiatives discussed in the following section, Musoni's farmers and partners are able to increase hiring as a biproduct of improved agricultural know-how or value chain connections, each on-farm and VCP job created would induce further employment creation



^{*&}quot;Measuring Total Employment Effects: a lean data methodology for a portfolio of investments in developing countries", CDC, February 2017



















ANNEX: SUPPORTING DETAILS

















Farmer survey overview

To build an understanding of borrower behavior and P&Ls, a survey of 469 borrowers was completed in March; respondents have been segmented along several dimensions: time with Musoni, age, gender, and primary crop type

Survey segmentation



- Borrowers with Musoni for <3 months are used as a proxy for "baseline" borrower behavior
- While respondents were segmented by primary crop type, analysis recognizes the varied crop and non-crop income streams of Musoni's broad borrower base

Total farmers in Survey (N) 469 N = sample size in segment

















Labor utilization and job creation

While male Musoni borrowers average labor days is ~40% higher than baseline, given limited changes in loan size, we cannot attribute causality to Musoni lending; older and male clients tend to use the most on farm labor

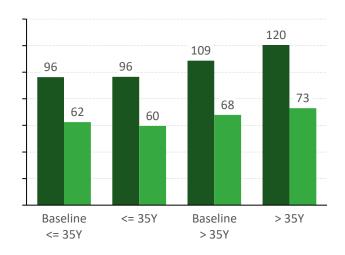
GENDER: (Baseline) Female and (Baseline) MaleAverage labour days and hired labour in 2019

Discussion

- Male Musoni borrowers do appear to exhibit relatively higher (~40%) labour employment than Baseline borrowers; a relationship that does not hold for women
- On average, Male borrowers appear to use more labour compared to Females, consistent with larger business and farms

AGE: (Baseline) Youth and (Baseline) Adult

Average labour days and hired labour in 2019

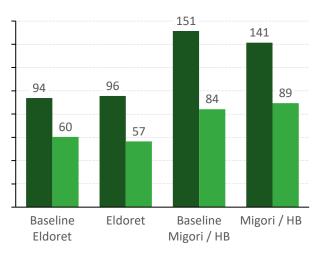


Discussion

 Adult clients, on average, use more (hired) labour compared to Youth clients, as they likely often have smaller farm sizes and poorer access to collateral.

CROP / REGION: (Baseline) County

Average labour days and hired labour in 2019



Labour days/year Hired labour days/year

Discussion

 Clients from Migori / Homa-Bay use more (hired) labour compared to clients from Eldoret, which could be explained by more use of mechanisation in Eldoret (Maize) compared to Migori / Homa-Bay (Sorghum)

Outliers excluded if cost of labour/day < 100 and > 1,000 KES per labourer













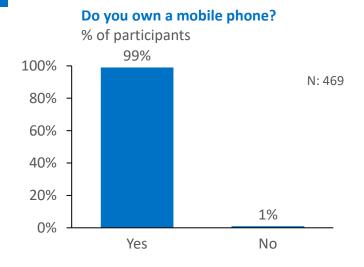


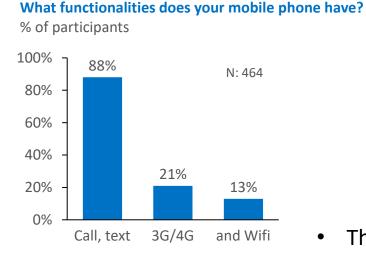


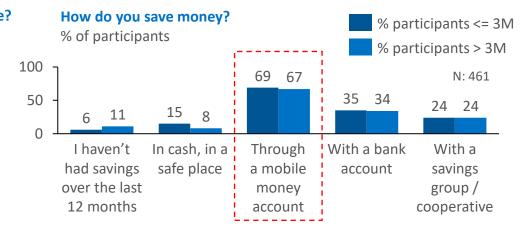


Competition and commoditization

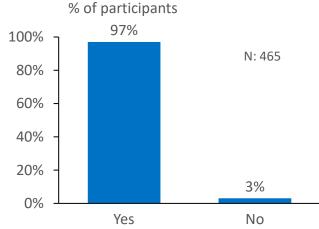
Looking forward, as digital options proliferate, differentiation will be a challenge; 90%+ of respondents own a mobile phone and mobile money; the vast majority have access to some form of formal saving



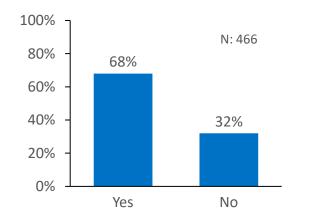




Do you have a mobile money account?







- The vast majority of Musoni customers surveyed own a mobile phone (99%) and use mobile money (97%) and 20% of respondents also have internet on their phones
- Widespread digital access offers a range of opportunities to access non-traditional financial services, and borrow from a broader set of loan providers
 - Differentiation will become increasingly important as digital offerings drive financial inclusion

















Benefits of microfinance as a sector

However, there is ample evidence in the literature that as part of an ecosystem of MFIs, Musoni's model is critical in supporting valuable economic activity, as focus group feedback suggests

Citation	Country	Product	Liability	Production	Income	Consumption	Resilience			
Agriculture specific products										
Abraham et al. (2018)	Nigeria	Access to credit	Individual		\checkmark					
Nzomo et al. (2015)	Kenya	Access to credit	n/a	\checkmark	\checkmark					
Fink et al. (2014)	Zambia	Input credit	Individual		\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark			
Beaman et al. (2014)	Mali	Baloon loan	Group	\checkmark						
Small business products										
Awunyo Vitor et al. (2012)	Ghana	Loan	n/a		\checkmark					
Crepon et al. (2014)	Morocco	Loan	Group		\checkmark					

[&]quot;Estimating the effects of financial access on poor farmers in rural northern Nigeria", Terfa Abraham (2018). "Effect of Types of Agricultural Credit Programmes on Productivity of Small Scale Farming Businesses in Kenya: A Survey of Kimilili Bungoma Sub County", Nzomo, M., & Muturi, W (2015). "Seasonal Credit Constraints and Agricultural Labor Supply: Evidence from Zambia", Fink, G., Kelsey Jack B., & Masiye F. (2014). "Selection into Credit Markets: Evidence from Agriculture in Mali", Beaman, L., Karlan, D., Thuysbaert, B., & Udry, C (2014). "Women participation in microcredit and its impact on income: A study of small-scale businesses in the central region of Ghana", Awunyo-Vitor, D., Abankwah, V., & Kwansah J (2012). "Estimating the impact of microcredit on those who take it up: Evidence from a randomized experiment in Morocco", Crepon, B., Devoto, F., Duflo, E., & Pariente, W (2014).



















CONTACT DETAILS

Please feel free to reach out with questions or comments



Milly Aoko

SDM Manager IDH – Farmfit +254 722276963 Aoko@idhtrade.org

Dalberg

Nick Whalley

Senior Project Manager Dalberg Advisors 07506602653 nick.Whalley@dalberg.com



Click here

















