Is Microinsurance a Growth Sector in Zambia?

Perspectives and Current Practice Lemmy Manje, IAZ Microinsurance Forum, May 28, 2013

Country Context - Quick Facts



Zambia's adult population is around 6.4 million; 51% female and 49% male

The majority of the country is sparsely populated

63% of the adult population live in rural areas





Most households regard education, funeral and health as the most costly events



Of total expenditures on health, only 2% is through private insurance, 28% is out of pocket expenditure and 38% is private expenditures



6.6% of the adult population report that they have insurance. When vehicle insurance and pension schemes for formal sector employees are removed, this reduces to 3.8%. [Finscope]

Initiatives to accelerate microinsurance in Zambia

PROCESS

- In 2009, the Centre for Financial Regulation and Inclusion (Cenfri), conducted a review of the Zambian microinsurance market, funded by the ILO, the UNCDF and FinMark Trust
- The outcome was a report, "Towards a strategy for microinsurance development in Zambia: a market and regulatory analysis"
- Creation of a steering committee (SC) and technical advisory group (TAG) to oversee strategy development and implementation process
- Microinsurance development strategy finalised in January 2010
- Launch of the Microinsurance Acceleration Facility in 2011; now its second round

Initiatives to accelerate microinsurance in Zambia

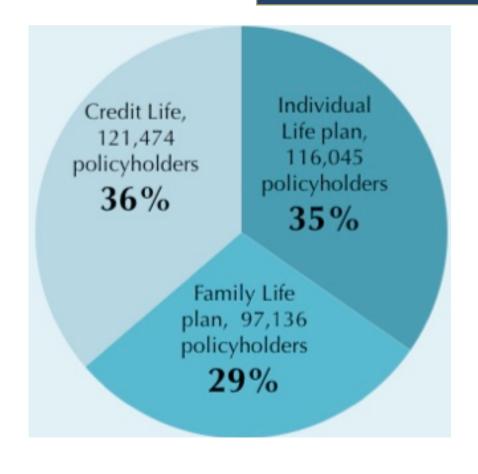


- Supplier and distributor assessments in 2010
- Microinsurance innovation seminars in 2010 and 2011
- Capacity building workshops in 2011 and 2012
- Microinsurance sensitization workshop in 2011
- Launch of the Microinsurance Acceleration Facility in 2011; now its second round
- Pipeline consumer education initiatives in 2013; beginning with a Microinsurance Marketplace during the forthcoming Insurance week to organized by IAZ

Current Microinsurance Landscape

334,655 + lives covered

- Dominated by life products mainly life plans and credit life
- The distribution space slowly expanding; more and actors in the microinsurance value chain



Active Insurers



LESS THAN HALF
OF MILLION
LIVES COVERED
IN A
POPULATION OF
13 MILLION PLUS

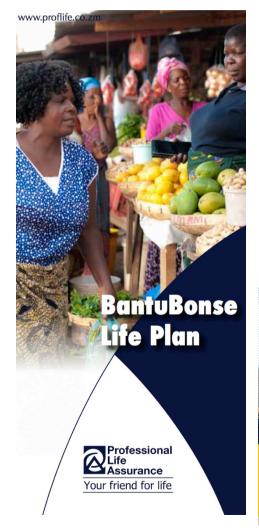


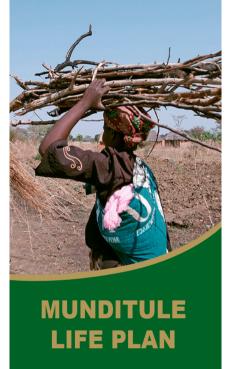




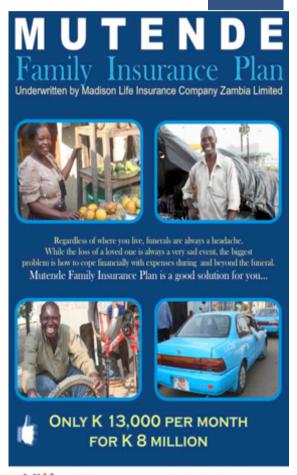
Microinsurance Products











Mife offices at Mife House, Near Main Post Office, Cairo Road, Lusaka. Email: mife@mife.co.am

Distribution

Microfinance institutions [Life insurance, funeral insurance and credit life policies]

Community based agents [Life insurance policies]

Brokers [Life insurance policies]

Labour unions [Life insurance policies]

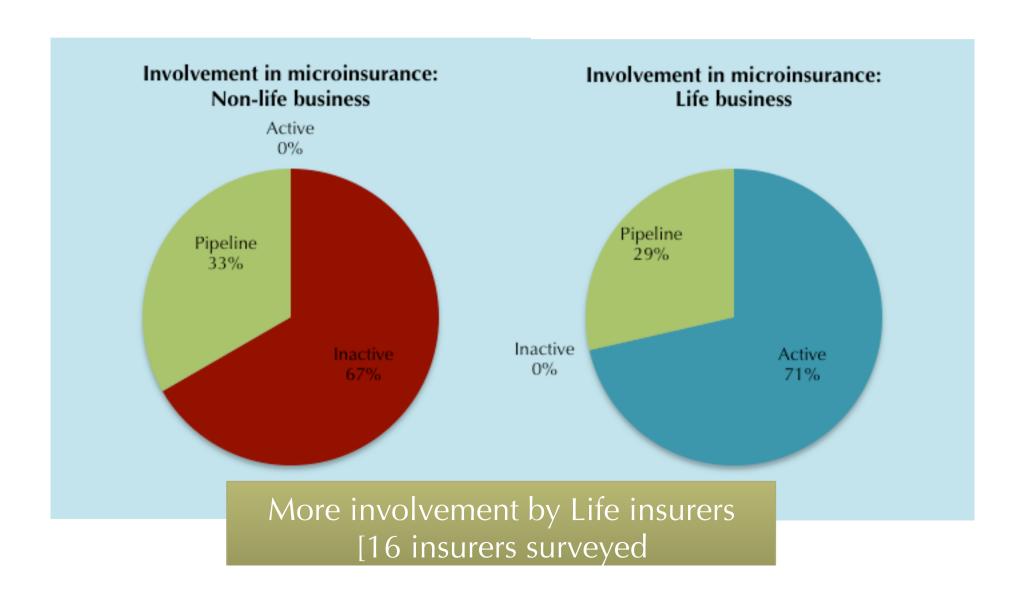
Commercial banks [Life insurance and credit life policies]

Money network operators [Life insurance policies]

Mobile payment operators [Life insurance policies]

Microenterprise associations [Life insurance policies

Involvement in Microinsurance



...microinsurance as a growth sector in Zambia

Yes, but with some requisites

"As an industry, we need to create the awareness in the mass markets and the general public at large that insurance is a financial planning service... until this happens the uptake of insurance will be slow,"

Ian H. Malilwe, CEO, Holla PRAMIE TABLE TO

"Microinsurance is likely grow rapidly over the next 10 years, the industry players have recognised the importance of tapping into the low-income market," Edna Kalenga, CEO, Diamond General

"Growth is likely to be slow in the next 10 years...the premium levels in microinsurance business are low and therefore not attractive to investors who want a quick return on investment...there is need for solid strategies to get huge volumes", Geoffrey Mkandawire, CEO, General Alliance Zambia Limited

Growth barriers

Pending formulation of microinsurance regulations

Premium collection

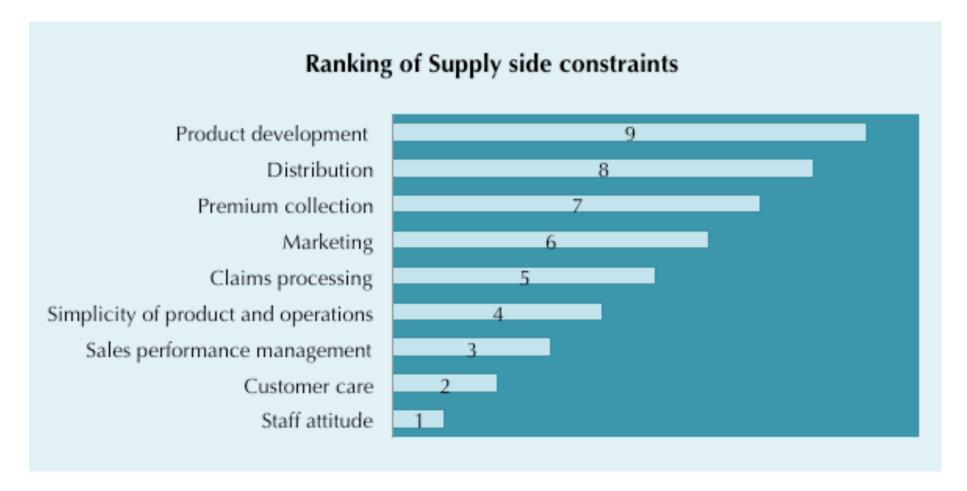
Low insurance culture

Low understanding of insurance

Unregulated informal sector

Capacity to deliver





Supply Constraints

- Product development
 - 2 Distribution
 - 3 Premium collection
 - 4 Marketing
- 5 Claims processing

Demand Constraints

"We often diminish the understanding capacity of low income groups. They are very capable of understanding Insurance but do they trust insurance companies?" Gary Corbit, CEO, African Life Assurance Zambia Limited



Ranking of Demand-side constraints	
Low understanding of insurance	
Poor insurance culture	
Low insurance exposure and experience	
Low literacy levels	

Capacity building

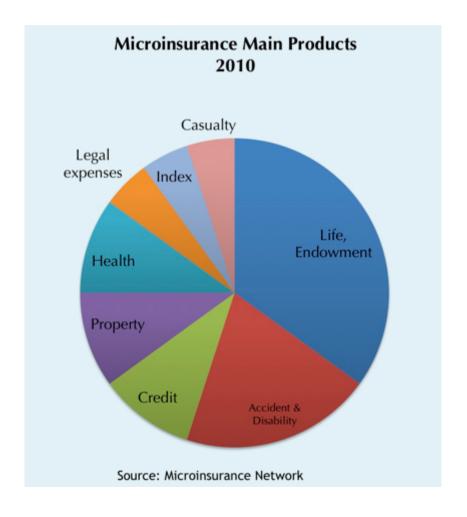
- Product development
- Distribution
- Sale force management
- Marketing
- Client value
- Claims management

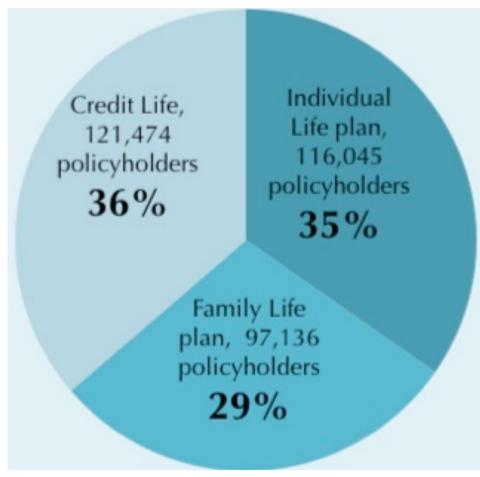
What will drive microinsurance?

- Innovations in product offerings
- Innovations in distribution
- Striving towards profitability
- Developing demand driven products
- Consumer education
- Building trust
- Creating an enabling environment

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Trend comparison: Product offerings





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...Microinsurance can be a growth sector in Zambia

Thank You

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