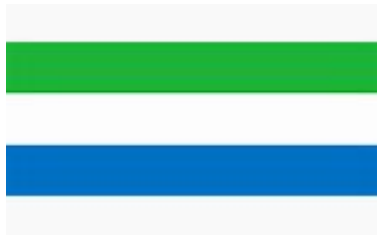


A Comparative Study of Microfinance/Women's Empowerment Initiatives in Africa and Latin America

Sara Anne Hook and Audra Lawler

2018 Robert G. Bringle Civic Engagement Showcase

April 10, 2018



Research Project

- Our research project will compare and contrast microfinance/women's empowerment initiatives in Kenya, Sierra Leone, Nicaragua and Mexico.
- The results of our research will provide a brief overview of each country included in the study and why it was chosen and compare various features of several of the microfinance organizations working in this country, including their level of sophistication, their processes and approaches, their collaboration with partners in the host countries, and the outcomes of their activities.
- Our research will also consider what laws and regulations facilitate versus hamper microfinance initiatives and will recommend ways that readers can be involved with or support microfinance/women's empowerment projects.

Additional Details about the Research

- Supported by the CSL and community partnerships, the authors work with microfinance/women's empowerment organizations that serve these countries and their involvement has expanded and deepened over the past few years.
- These countries provide an opportunity to compare two countries from Africa with two from Latin America, including a large and small country from each region.
- These countries are either well-served or only lightly served by a variety of microfinance organizations.
- All four countries have experienced many challenges recently, such as natural disasters, civil war, economic hardship, crime and sectarian violence and disease.

Sources and Focus of Inquiry

- Literature review using a variety of databases to retrieve materials about microfinance in each of the four countries.
- Contacts with microfinance organizations in the four countries.
- Use of MIX Market for information on individual microfinance organizations as well as data and reports on the four countries and overall trends in microfinance.
- Time period of interest is 2010 to the present.
- Especially interested in non-profit organizations that are involved in microfinance as opposed to for-profit entities such as banks.
- Looking at concept of social entrepreneurship/civic entrepreneurship and the interrelationship of microfinance and women's empowerment.
- Focus is on microfinance itself, not the impact of it on issues such as children's education or health.
- Importance of microfinance: 767 million people, or 10.7 percent, of the world's population lives in extreme poverty (\$1.90 USD per day).

Examples of Microfinance Organizations

- Pro Mujer, which has projects and personnel in five countries, including Nicaragua and Mexico, is large, sophisticated and quite influential and it provides loans along with money management and empowerment training. This organization keeps its focus strictly on Latin America and is very intentional about how it expands its services. It groups its borrowers into “communal banks” for training, support and to ensure that loans are repaid.
- Right Sharing of World Resources (RSWR), even after 50 years, is still very small, gives grants rather than loans, and borrowers are expected to contribute a percentage of the overall costs of a project. It works in three countries: Sierra Leone, Kenya and India.
- Both help to build community, particularly in remote and rural areas.



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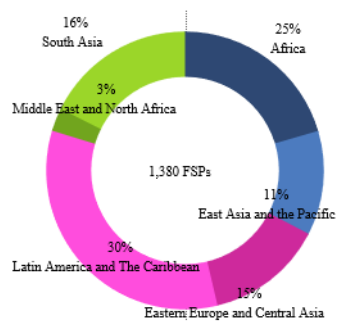
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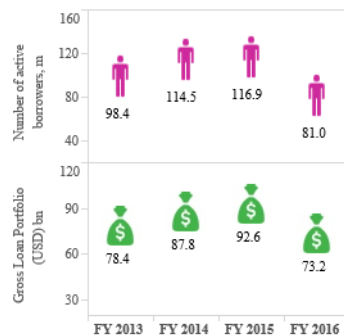
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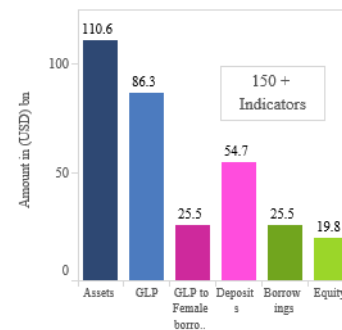
Based on the count of FSPs reporting to MIX Market from FY 2013 to FY 2015

OUTREACH



FY 2016 data collection is in progress

FEATURED INDICATORS



Based on the average of indicators reported by FSPs to MIX Market from FY 2013 to FY 2015

DATA & ANALYSIS



CROSS MARKET ANALYSIS

Conduct analysis on select indicators and groupings



FSP ANALYSIS

Analyze data and reports from FSPs

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Mexico



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| MEXICO MARKET OVERVIEW | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| FINANCIAL SERVICE PROVIDER (FSP)▲ | REPORTING PERIOD | GROSS LOAN PORTFOLIO (USD) m | NO OF ACTIVE BORROWERS '000 | DEPOSITS (USD) m | NO OF DEPOSITORS '000 | PREMIUM INDICATORS |
| TOTAL | — | 4,510 | 7,191 | 2,421 | 1,921 | SUBSCRIBE |
| ABC Capital | 2010 | | | | | Available |
| ACREIMEX | 2014 | 74.64 | 30.59 | 68.04 | 41.10 | Available |
| ADMIC | 2008 | | | | | Available |
| ALFIN | 2009 | | | | | Available |
| ALSOL | 2013 | | | | | Available |
| Alternativa 19 del Sur | 2014 | 53.81 | 71.26 | 0.00 | 0.00 | Available |
| AMEXTRA | 2016 | 2.58 | 4.77 | 1.91 | 12.77 | Available |
| Apoyo Económico | 2016 | 73.52 | 163.77 | 0.00 | 0.00 | Available |
| Apoyo Integral México | 2014 | 5.59 | 13.41 | 0.00 | 0.00 | Available |
| Apoyo Social | 2010 | | | | | Available |
| APROS | 2013 | | | | | Available |
| ASEFIMEX | 2016 | 1.48 | 0.93 | 0.00 | 0.00 | Available |
| ASP Financiera | 2010 | | | | | Available |
| ASPIRE Mexico | 2011 | | | | | Available |
| ATEMEXPA | 2010 | | | | | Available |

PREMIUM PUBLICATIONS

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ANNUAL BENCHMARK REPORT FOR MEXICO FY 2016

Dec 31, 2016 |
Topic: Benchmarking Analysis
 Benchmarking Analysis

ANNUAL BENCHMARK REPORT FOR MEXICO FY 2016

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Topic: Benchmarking Analysis
 Benchmarking Analysis

PREMIUM TOOLS



CROSS MARKET ANALYSIS

Conduct analysis across indicator and FSP groupings



FSP ANALYSIS

Analyze data and reports from FSPs

Pro Mujer - MEX | MIX

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AT-A-GLANCE

pro mujer ★★★★★ SOCIAL PERFORMANCE DATA REVIEW

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------|--|-------|
| Gross Loan Portfolio (USD) m, 2016 | 20.39 | Number of Active Borrowers, '000, 2016 | 46.44 |
| Deposits (USD) m, 2016 | 1.88 | Number of Depositors, '000, 2016 | 46.44 |
| Assets (USD) m, 2016 | 24.92 | Offices, 2016 | 38 |

MISSION

Pro Mujer is an international microfinance and women's development organization whose mission is to provide Latin America's poorest women with the means to build livelihoods for themselves and futures for their families through microfinance, business training, and healthcare support. Pro Mujer fights poverty by establishing sustainable microfinance organizations that provide an integrated package of financial and human development services that women require to build and improve their small businesses. Pro Mujer supports the health of its clients and their families and helps women build their self-esteem. The network also links women and their families with existing resources and services in their communities.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Beneficio del Patío #100 Fracc. Real de Minas
Pachuca de Soto
Mexico

Website: www.promujer.org

LEGAL INFORMATION

Date Established: 01/01/2001
Current Legal Status: NGO
FYE: 31-Dec

FUNDING

Grants: Loans

Mujer - MEX | MIX

MORE INFORMATION

PRO MUJER - MEX ANNUAL TRENDS

LAST 3 REPORTED ANNUAL PERIODS

| | FY 2014 | FY 2015 | FY 2016 |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Number of Active Borrowers '000 | 41 | 42 | 38 |
| Deposits (USD) m | 373 | 430 | 436 |
| Number of Depositors '000 | 186 | 205 | 242 |
| Assets (USD) m | 20.58 | 20.29 | 24.92 |
| Liabilities (USD) m | 17.47 | 18.86 | 20.39 |
| Borrowings (USD) m | 41.78 | 40.31 | 46.44 |
| Equity (USD) m | 2.00 | 1.83 | 1.88 |
| Balance Sheet | | | |
| Liabilities (USD) m | | 40.31 | 46.44 |
| Borrowings (USD) m | 15.25 | 15.75 | 20.05 |
| Equity (USD) m | 12.52 | 12.64 | 16.07 |
| Risk and Liquidity | | | |
| Portfolio at Risk > 30 Days | 5.33 | 4.54 | 4.87 |
| Write-off Ratio | 5.49% | 5.14% | 4.76% |
| | 2.65% | 3.01% | 4.66% |

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PRO MUJER MEX AFS 2016
Topic: Audit
Fiscal Year: 2016

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ANALYTICAL TOOLS

FSP ANALYSIS
View or download all financial and social performance data for this FSP, analyzing and benchmarking their performance.

Africa: Sierra Leone and Kenya



Population: 48 million (World Bank, 2016)

GDP per capita: \$1,455 USD (World Bank, 2016)

Poverty: 46 percent (UNICEF)



Population: 7 million (World Bank, 2016)

GDP per capita: \$496 USD (World Bank, 2016)

Poverty: 60% live below in the poverty line and it has gotten worse.

Latin America: Mexico and Nicaragua



Population: 6.15 million

GDP per capita: \$2,151 USD (World Bank, 2016)

Poverty: 24.9 percent (World Bank, 2016) – has improved from 48.3 percent 2005 in with recent economic and political stabilization.

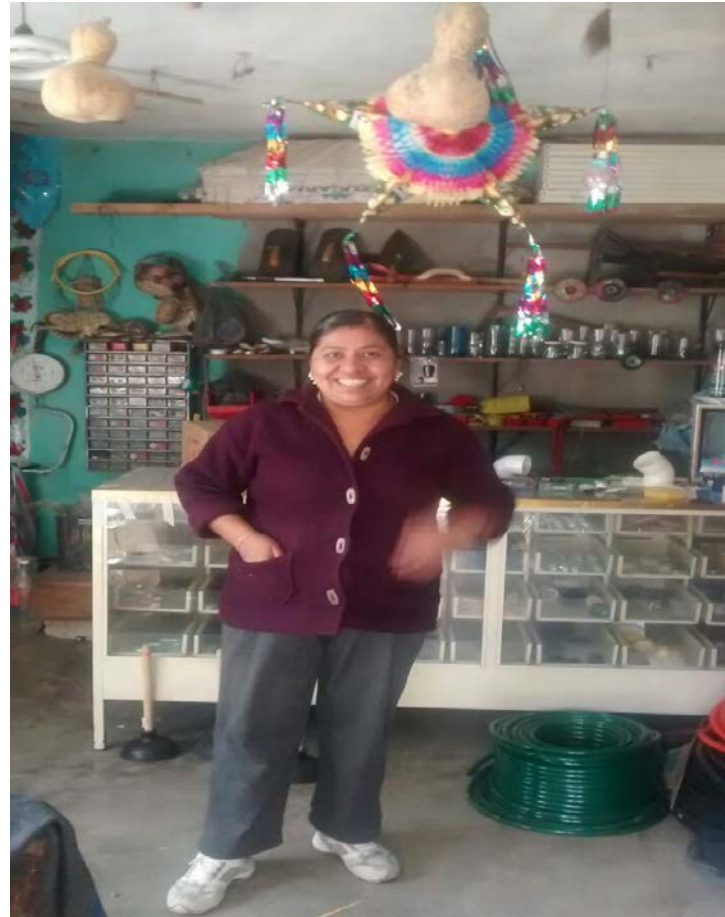


In Calnali, Mexico (site of our project):

Population: 15,815.

Poverty: 26.7% of men and 91.8% of women are economically inactive, with little access to employment in the formal sector.

Promotes Traditional and Non-Traditional Work for Women



Addresses Lack of Opportunities in Rural and Remote Areas



Promotes Preservation of Traditional Crafts



Creates and Builds Community and a Support System for Women



*Photographs from Sierra Leone and Kenya from RSWR website.

Accomplishments and Earnings Contribute to Women's Empowerment



Conclusions

- To Get Involved:

- Try Kiva.org – choose a category and then select a project to support!
- Identify high-quality microfinance organizations through the MIX Market website that support causes you are interested in.
- Join, volunteer for and support high-quality microfinance organizations.

- Any Questions?

- Thank you for attending our presentation! Sara and Audra