

Microinsurance – A Nexus to Human Rights?

University of Zurich (Switzerland)
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Insurance

“ Covers an individual / company / household for **some or all** of a **financial loss** that is linked to an **unpredictable event** or risk, via **risk pooling** and the **payment of a premium** ”

Microinsurance – Elements

- **appropriate cover**, corresponding to true client need
- few to **no exclusions**
- **premium payment** reflects income stream
- **quick claims settlement**: days, not months

Microinsurance should be **SUAVE**:

Simple

Understood

Accessible

Valuable

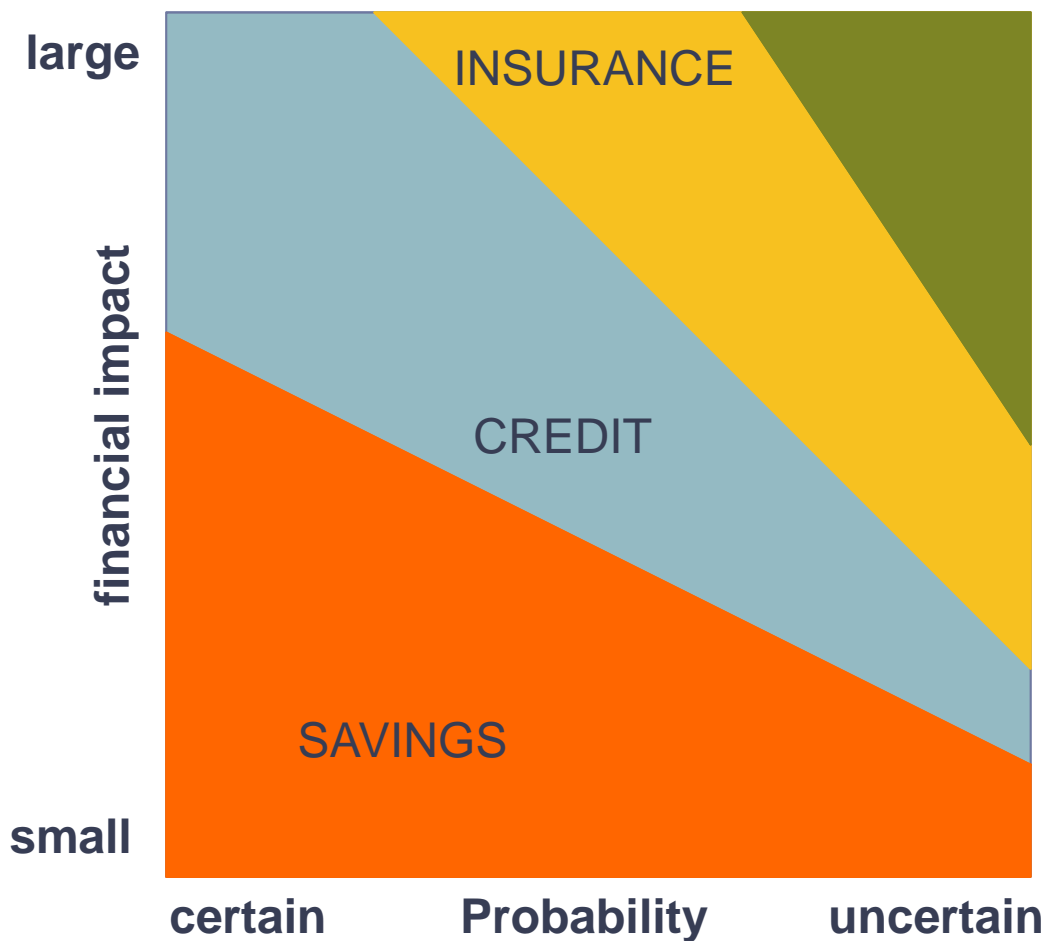
Efficient

Insurance, Credit or Savings?

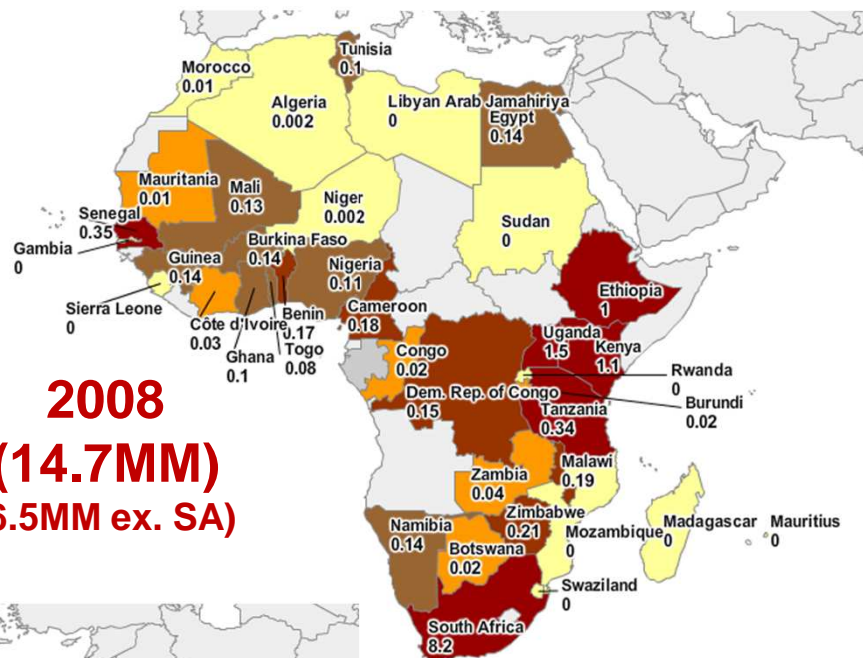
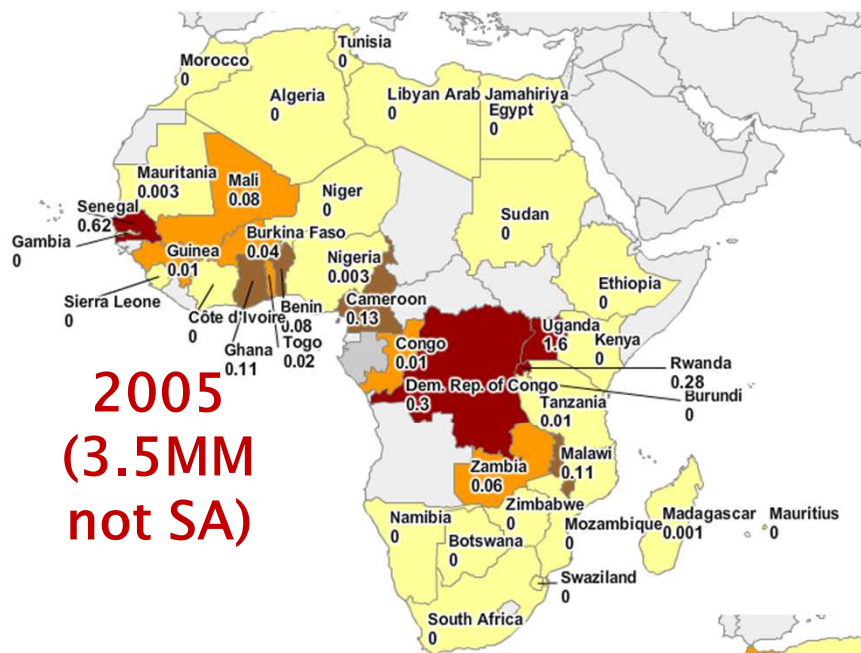
... it depends on the event characteristics.

Insurance:
provides safety-net, kick-starts development, pays back multiple of premium in case of emergency, no

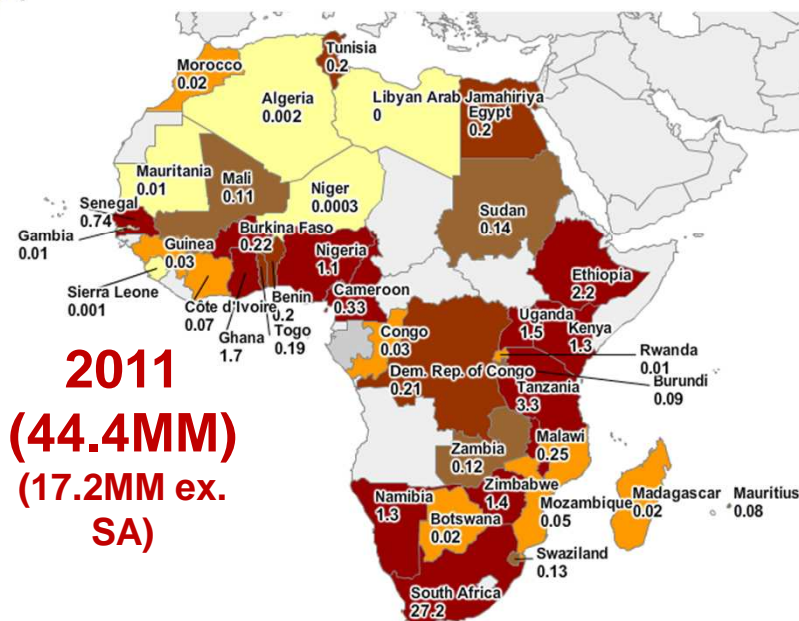
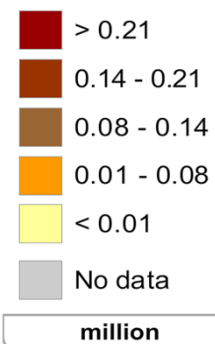
debt



Africa: total lives/properties covered in 2005, 2008, and 2011



Number of lives/properties covered



Growth drivers:

- Commercial sector
- Technology
- Competition
- Donors
- Ethiopian MFIs

Need and Demand



Africa: Covered lives / properties, premiums, and loss ratios by product type

Product Type	Covered lives or properties (in millions)	Premiums (million USD)	Loss Ratio
Life	26.92	444.05	44%
Credit Life	2.50	16.67	23%
Health	0.67	8.19	103%
Accident	0.13	0.58	40%
Agriculture	0.22	6.61	
Property	0.32	1.74	69%
Total	30.76	477.85	44%

Note: table reflects data for those that reported all information 7

A wide-angle photograph of a mountain valley. In the foreground, a dirt road winds through a grassy slope. In the middle ground, a river flows through a valley floor. The background shows distant mountain ranges under a blue sky with scattered clouds.

We still have a long way to go...

Thank you for your attention

Safe journey back!

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