Social Entrepreneurship, Innovation & Industry Analysis of the Micro Banking Sector in the South East Asia



Munish Thakur & Ram Kumar Kakani XLRI Jamshedpur || "Money, says the proverb, makes money. When you have got a little, it is often easy to get more. The great difficulty is to get that little." - Adam Smith from 'The Wealth of Nations' ||







South Asia Background ...

- Poor Economies
 - Large Population
 - Huge Poverty
 - High Difference between haves and have nots
- For example, Bangladesh with population of 16 Crores remains one of the least developed countries at the beginning of the new millennium → ~ 50% are below poverty line







Source: VISA International and World Bank



Questions .

What is Poverty?

- Should we come out of it !! If yes, how?
- What have been the reasons for success of Grameen Bank?
- What parameters measure the success of a social entrepreneurship venture?
- What were the problems with the Grameen Model?





- Should there be attempts to come out of poverty!! If yes, how?
- In Bangladesh, over fifty organizations providing microfinance services with more than 10,000 memberships.
- The landscape was dotted by three dominant players, namely, ASA, BRAC, and Grameen.









Source: VISA International and World Bank





Time (Months)



|| "... the microfinance industry has ossified! It promotes group-based micro enterprise loan products and is obstructing the development of full range of services and products that poor people want and need - flexible savings, contractual savings, loans for education and health, micro insurance and lines of credit." - David Hulme (co-author of 'Finance against Poverty') ||



INFORMAL FINANCE



- 1. What are the basic virtues of informal finance?
- 2. What is the collateral when Grameen Bank gives loan to the poor?
- 3. Write the similarities and differences between ASA, BRAC, and Grameen?
- 4. Is SafeSave doing well?
- 5. What were the reasons for success of SafeSave?







Informal Finance

What is informal finance?

- What are the basic virtues of informal finance?
 - Slashed transaction costs
 - Supply of not just loans but also implicit insurance
 - Services sensitive to constraints faced by specific members
 - Substitution of confidence in character for physical collateral
- Self-enforced contracts
- Sequences of repeated transactions ~ sense of smell



Value chain for Safesave





Responsive Vs Standardized Microfinance Products

| Behaviour | Responsive Product (SafeSave) | Standardized Product (Grameen in 1990s) |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Domain Saving Behaviour | Save frequently or occasionally Save sums of a similar or differing value at regular or irregular intervals Save without borrowing | - Compulsory saving in regular equal amounts |
| Withdrawal Behaviour | - Withdraw frequently or rarely, or store for the very long term | - Withdrawal restrictions |
| Borrowing Behaviour | Choose not to borrow Borrow regularly or irregularly at any interval | - Borrow continuously at regular intervals |
| Repayment Behaviour | Quickly or slowly, with no fixed term In installments or in lump sums At regular or at irregular intervals | - Repay in regular equal installments amortizing loan within a fixed time period |
| Effect of | - Discontinue saving while holding a loan, | -No effect |
| Borrowing on | Or Coverent the coverence of the increased many | |
| Savings | - Save at the same or at an increased pace | Courses Dhurse 2001 |
| Behaviour | «Kakani/XLRI | Source: Rhyne, 2001 |

Questions .

- Is SafeSave replicable? Is SafeSave scalable? To what extent?
- 2. What are the generic strategies of ASA, BRAC, Grameen and SafeSave?
- 3. Link these generic strategies with their financial statements!
- Discuss the performance metrics you will use to measure employees performance as a branch staff / manager of ASA, Grameen, and SafeSave?
- Which organization should Subbu target for investment?



| Operational Indicators | ASA | BRAC | Grameen | SafeSave |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Financial Year ==> | FY2007 | FY2007 | FY2007 | FY2007 |
| Borrowers per staff | 216 | 184 | 322 | 80 |
| Clients per staff | 265 | 212 | 373 | 120 |
| Staff for each branch | 8 | 12 | 8 | 13 |
| Business generated per staff | 239,244 | 402,227 | 366,804 | 109,000 |
| Profit generated per staff | 117,413 | 38,059 | 5,779 | 10,000 |
| Assets per staff | 1,146,905 | 1,726,787 | 3,724,425 | 403,000 |
| Loans outstanding per staff | 983,204 | 991,734 | 2,027,979 | 300,000 |
| Deposits and savings per staff | 397,771 | 389,311 | 2,812,898 | 219,000 |
| Non-interest expense per staff | 102,925 | na | 199,255 | 80,000 |
| Business generated per client | 902 | 1,901 | 983 | 908 |
| Profit generated per client | 443 | 180 | 15 | 83 |
| Assets per client | 4,324 | 8,163 | 9,981 | 3,358 |
| Loans outstanding per borrowers | 4,555 | 5,399 | 6,302 | 3,750 |
| Deposits and savings per client | 1,363 | 1,840 | 7,538 | 1,742 |
| Non-interest expense per client | 388 | na | 534 | 667 |
| Average size of group | 27.8 | 28.3 | 6.4 | na |

| Grameen | | FY07 | BRAC | | FY05 | FY07 |
|---|------|------|-----------------------------|---|------|------|
| Assets | | | Assets | | | |
| Cash & Cash Equivalents | 2% | 1% | | Cash & Cash Equivalents | 4% | 8% |
| Loan Outstanding | 62% | 54% | | Loan Outstanding | 54% | 57% |
| Investments, Deposits and Other Current A | 33% | 43% | | Deposits and Other Current Assets | 27% | 26% |
| Fixed Assets | 3% | 2% | | Fixed Assets | 15% | 9% |
| Total Assets | 100% | 100% | | Total Assets | 100% | 100% |
| Liabilities & Net Worth | FY04 | FY07 | Y07 Liabilities & Net Worth | | FY05 | FY07 |
| Liabilities | | | | Liabilities | | |
| Client Savings | 21% | 33% | | Client Savings | 0% | 0% |
| Member Savings | 41% | 43% | | Member Savings | 29% | 22% |
| Borrowings | 9% | 3% | | Borrowings | 32% | 41% |
| Provisions and Other Liabilities | 15% | 13% | | Provisions and Other Liabilities | 8% | 14% |
| Total Liabilities | 86% | 91% | | Total Liabilities | 69% | 78% |
| Net Worth | | | | Net Worth | | |
| Grants & Similar Items | 13% | 8% | | Capital fund (unrestricted) | 30% | 22% |
| Retained Earnings / Accumulated Deficit | 0% | 0% | | Capital fund (restricted) | 1% | 1% |
| Share Capital | 1% | 0% | | Share Capital | na | na |
| Total Networth | 14% | 9% | | Total Networth | 31% | 22% |
| Total Liabilities & Net Worth | 100% | 100% | | Total Liabilities & Net Worth | 100% | 100% |
| Income | | FY07 | Inc | ome | FY05 | FY07 |
| Income from Customers | 100% | 100% | | Income from Customers | 100% | 100% |
| Bank Interest | 19% | 44% | | Bank Interest | 7% | 6% |
| Non Operating Income | 16% | 13% | | Non Operating Income & Unidentified Adjustmen | 48% | 47% |
| Total Income | 135% | 157% | | Total Income | 156% | 154% |
| Costs | | | | Costs | | |
| Interest expense (all) | 45% | 66% | | Interest on Clients Savings | na | na |
| Provisions for Loan Loss | 29% | 34% | | Interest on Borrowings | na | na |
| Staff Salaries | 36% | 36% | | Provisions for Loan Loss | na | na |
| Other Administrative Costs | 12% | 18% | | Staff Salaries | na | na |
| Net Profit | 12% | 2% | | Other Administrative Costs | na | na |
| Тах | 0% | 0% | | Profit Before Adjustments | 21% | 10% |
| Net Profit includes other income | 12% | 2% | | Tax | 0% | 0% |
| | | | | Net Profit includes other income | 20% | 9% |

| SafeSave | | FY04 | FY07 | AS/ | ASA | | FY07 |
|----------|-----------------------------------|------|------|------|----------------------------------|------|------|
| Assets | | | | Ass | ets | | |
| | Cash & Cash Equivalents | 7% | 5% | | Cash & Cash Equivalents | 7% | 6% |
| | Loan Outstanding | 81% | 74% | | Loan Outstanding | 72% | 86% |
| | Deposits and Other Current Assets | 10% | 18% | | Deposits and Other Current Ass | 19% | 6% |
| | Fixed Assets | 2% | 3% | | Fixed Assets | 1% | 3% |
| | Total Assets | 100% | 100% | | Total Assets | 100% | 100% |
| Liabili | ties & Net Worth | FY04 | FY07 | Lial | bilities & Net Worth | | |
| | Liabilities | | | | Liabilities | | |
| | Client Savings | 53% | 50% | | Client Savings | 9% | 16% |
| | Member Savings | 0% | 2% | | Member Savings | 18% | 16% |
| | Staff Savings | 3% | 2% | | Staff Savings | 2% | 3% |
| | Borrowings | 40% | 10% | | Borrowings | 20% | 3% |
| | Provisions and Other Liabilities | 1% | 3% | | Provisions and Other Liabilities | 1% | 0% |
| | Total Liabilities | 97% | 68% | | Total Liabilities | 49% | 38% |
| | Net Worth | | | | Net Worth | | |
| | Grants & Similar Items | 0% | 25% | | Members Fund / Capital Fund | 43% | 58% |
| | Retained Earnings/ Accum. Deficit | 0% | 4% | | Reserve for Claims, etc. | 7% | 4% |
| | Share Capital | 3% | 3% | | Share Capital | na | na |
| | Total Networth | 3% | 32% | | Total Networth | 51% | 62% |
| | Total Liabilities & Net Worth | 100% | 100% | | Total Liabilities & Net Worth | 100% | 100% |
| Incom | e | FY04 | FY07 | Inco | ome | | |
| | Income from Customers | 100% | 100% | | Income from Customers | 100% | 100% |
| | Bank Interest | 3% | 5% | | Bank Interest | 4% | 3% |
| | Non Operating Income | 0% | 3% | | Non Operating Income & Unide | 1% | 2% |
| | Total Income | 103% | 107% | | Total Income | 105% | 105% |
| | Costs | | | | Costs | | |
| | Interest on Clients Savings | 8% | 10% | | Interest on Clients Savings | 3% | 3% |
| | Interest on Staff Savings | 0% | 1% | | Interest on Staff Savings | 0% | 0% |
| | Interest on Borrowings | 0% | 3% | | Interest on Borrowings | 9% | 5% |
| | Provisions for Loan Loss | 9% | 8% | | Provisions for Loan Loss | 1% | |
| | Staff Salaries | 66% | 50% | | Staff Salaries | 23% | 36% |
| | Other Administrative Costs | 19% | 23% | | Other Administrative Costs | 4% | 7% |
| | Profit Before Tax | 2% | 12% | | Profit Before Tax | 66% | 49% |
| | Тах | 0% | 3% | | Тах | 0% | 0% |
| | Net Profit includes other income | 2% | 9% | | Net Profit includes other incom | 66% | 49% |

| Financial Ratios | |
|--|------|
| Return on Equity | |
| Return on Assets | |
| Expense Ratio | |
| Interest Expense | |
| Cost of each liability | |
| Cost of Customers Deposits | |
| Cost of Borrowings | |
| Composition of liability/aTA | |
| Vol. Of interest bearing liabilities/aTA | |
| Non-interest Expense | |
| Salaries and emply. Benefits/aTA | |
| Other expenses/aTA | |
| Provisions for loan losses/aTA | |
| Tax Ratio | |
| Asset Utilization | |
| Interest Income/aTA | |
| Yield on Earning Assets | |
| Volume of Earning Assets | |
| Non-Interst Income/aTA | |
| Equity Multiplier 23 | 2012 |

| Financial Year Ending ==> | 2006 | 2007 | 2006 | 2007 | 2006 | 2007 | 2006 | 2007 |
|--|--------------|-------|--------|-------|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Financial Ratios | | | Gramee | n | ASA | | BRAC | |
| Return on Equity | | 8.1% | 25.8% | 1.8% | 25.5% | 18.1% | 22.6% | 10.3% |
| Return on Assets | 2.6% | 2.7% | 2.7% | 0.2% | 14.8% | 11.1% | 7.0% | 2.7% |
| Expense Ratio | 31.4% | 28.0% | 15.4% | 16.4% | 10.7% | 12.6% | NA | NA |
| Interest Expense | 3.6% | 4.0% | 6.7% | 7.0% | 2.2% | 2.0% | NA | NA |
| Cost of each liability | 5.7% | 6.0% | 7.4% | 7.7% | 5.3% | 5.0% | NA | NA |
| Cost of Customers Deposits | 5.2% | 5.5% | 7.8% | 8.7% | 2.1% | 2.1% | NA | NA |
| Cost of Borrowings | 10.5% | 10.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 19.8% | 33.3% | NA | NA |
| Composition of liability/aTA | 72.7% | 73.7% | 102.4% | 98.3% | 44.5% | 40.6% | 76.2% | 94.1% |
| Vol. Of interest bearing liabilities/aTA | 69.4% | 70.2% | 88.8% | 84.0% | 44.3% | 40.3% | 60.9% | 77.6% |
| Non-interest Expense | 24.2% | 21.5% | 5.7% | 5.7% | 8.2% | 9.7% | NA | NA |
| Salaries and emply. Benefits/aTA | 17.3% | 14.8% | 3.9% | 3.9% | 7.1% | 8.1% | NA | NA |
| Other expenses/aTA | 6.9% | 6.7% | 1.8% | 1.9% | 1.1% | 1.6% | NA | NA |
| Provisions for loan losses/aTA | 3.6% | 2.4% | 3.0% | 3.6% | <mark>0.3%</mark> | 0.9% | NA | NA |
| Tax Ratio | 1.0% | 0.8% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.2% | 0.1% |
| Asset Utilization | 35.0% | 31.5% | 18.1% | 16.6% | 25.5% | 23.7% | 51.2% | 43.4% |
| Interest Income/aTA | 34.7% | 30.6% | 15.4% | 15.2% | 25.2% | 23.1% | 35.1% | 30.0% |
| Yield on Earning Assets | 33.3% | 29.3% | 11.0% | 10.2% | 24.1% | 22.8% | 35.8% | 28.0% |
| Volume of Earning Assets | 91.5% | 92.3% | 96.7% | 97.0% | 92.1% | 91.6% | 83.6% | 83.3% |
| Non-Interst Income/aTA | 0.3% | 0.8% | 2.7% | 1.4% | 0.4% | 0.5% | 16.1% | 13.4% |
| Equity Multiplier | 2.69 | 3.00 | 9.61 | 10.72 | 1.72 | 1.63 | 3.22 | 3.87 |

Michael Porter's Framework on GENERIC STRATEGIES

Munish Thakur & Ram Kumar Kakani XLRI Jamshedpur

Basis for competitive advantage

on Streng

→ Relative |

| Strength | Differentiation Advantage | Cost-cum- Differentiation Advantage | |
|----------|------------------------------|---|--------|
| | Stuck-in-the-Middle | Low Cost | |
| Inferior | | Advantage | |
| Inferio | | | rengtl |

These are also known as Generic strategies
Some times they are divided into three: Low Cost, Differentiation, and Focus
While the first two can be industry wide the third one is for a particular segment only



Generic Strategies for different MFIs in Bangladesh

Thakur&Kakani/XLRI



Few Learning Objectives.

- Inputs on Social Entrepreneurship
- Importance of hands on experience of working, for innovation
 - How innovations change with context (i.e., site of action)
- How to build and nurture sustainable entrepreneurship ventures



All other learnings of Generic Strategies
 & Solid Financial Analysis

Other Experiments ...

- Among small players, there are a few interesting experiments done in Bangladesh that were changing the way banking services were modeled for the poor – like SafeSave.
- In India, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka have few interesting experiments going ...
- BASIX is doing a wonderful job ...

