

# Global Index Insurance Facility



## October Newsletter



### TEAM NEWS

#### Improving the Agriculture Sector in DRC



Photo Credit: World Bank / Vincent Tremeau. 17 January 2019 - Beni, North Kivu region, DRC

The WBG recently approved a Financial Sector Development Programmatic Advisory Services and Analytics (ASA) project in the country, to contribute to the stability, integrity, inclusivity, accessibility and sustainable development of the financial sector in Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Among various pillars of the project, the development of agriculture insurance plays a significant role.

The objective of this component is to examine the feasibility of developing insurance solutions for rural communities as part of financial sector development and operationalizing a sustainable agricultural insurance program in the country. Should the results of the feasibility study be favorable, the team would then develop a detailed plan that would include key capacity building activities. The goal with this next phase would be to focus on the development of agriculture insurance in DRC. GIIF would aim to launch a pilot project for maize, cassava, and livestock starting 2021. The benefits of the pilot are expected to reach thousands of farmers and pastoralists in the DRC by 2023. GIIF would be working with select local firms for product design and structuring, contract pricing, products distribution, reinsurance processes and contract monitoring, keeping in mind its decade-long practice that the products should be simple, affordable and sustainable. [Read More](#) about the GIIF interview with the Team Leader Alphonsus Nji T Achomuma on the project in general and on the agriculture insurance component in particular.

### GIIF BLOG

#### Gender Agenda: Our Collaboration with Regions and the IFC Women's Insurance Program



### GIIF HIGHLIGHT

#### MoooFarm: Mobile Application for Improving the Lives and Livelihoods of Dairy Farmers



MoooFarm is an award-winning start-up building a connected commerce platform to lift India's 100 million dairy farmers out of poverty and ensure nutritious milk for over a billion people. Through its mobile application farmers can connect with qualified veterinarians, buy & sell cattle, order farm inputs, access financial services, manage their farm & cattle and engage with subject matter experts to make dairy profitable.

MoooFarm was awarded under the Data & Analytics category in the GIIF Agriculture Insurtech Challenge 2019. In 2020, MoooFarm has joined the World Economic Forum's Global Innovators Community. The founder & CEO of Mooofarm – Param Singh has been recognized as one of the [Meaningful Business 100](#), an award celebrating business leaders around the world combining profit & purpose to help achieve the UN SDGs. [Watch the GIIF Interview video with Mooofarm here.](#)

### GIIF INTERVIEW

#### GIIF Interview with Dr. Marcel Van Asseldonk, Senior Scientist of Wageningen Economic Research



In August 2020, GIIF initiated a comprehensive study with Wageningen University & Research that will bring the experiences and perspectives of all stakeholders on the agriculture insurance value chain in three African countries: Kenya, Senegal and Zambia. This study will include household surveys of GIIF-sponsored insurance schemes and interviews with relevant services providers, which can guide the expansion/scale up phase of GIIF operation in these countries. The Wageningen Economic Research team headed by Dr. Marcel Van Asseldonk with more than 20 years of experience in agriculture insurance will be conducting the study. Dr. Asseldonk who worked on many impact evaluations of insurance schemes including field research projects in Kenya and Zambia, sits with GIIF to share insight on his research and the plan for the project. [Read More.](#)

### CLIMATE INSURANCE PUBLICATION

Photo Credit: Curt Carnemark / World Bank. Women in a market in Nigeria

Women in developing countries are particularly vulnerable to climate, financial and health risks due to environmental, political and social factors. The GIIF program acknowledges that by empowering women with insurance protection, both economic growth and long-term shared prosperity are attainable and sustainable, since women are likely to reinvest their income in the education, health and wellbeing of their family and community.

With this idea in mind, GIIF will be conducting a study to evaluate the needs of rural female farmers in Nigeria, Sri Lanka and Zambia (countries with existing GIIF projects), to understand the current situation, and identify knowledge gaps in the women farmer insurance segment so that the insight gained could be leveraged during the design and implementation of gender-responsive insurance schemes going forward. For this study, GIIF collaborates with regional colleagues based in Africa and Asia, as well as with the IFC Women's Insurance Program. This article offers an overview of their work, showcasing examples within their gender agenda. [Read More](#).

## GIIF in Mozambique: Advancing Agriculture Insurance with Hollard Mozambique



Photo Credit: John Hogg / World Bank

Mozambique is primarily an agricultural economy with more than 75% of the population engaged in rainfall-dependent farming, the majority of whom are smallholder farmers ([USAID, 2018](#)). While agriculture contributes to 25% of the country's GDP, due to Mozambique's unique location and geography, it is subject to various climate risks such as drought in the southern part of the country, cyclones in the coastal areas and flooding during the rainy season ([IGC, 2019](#)). Most of the smallholder producers have been perilously unprotected against climate change-induced crop failures.

In 2018, [Hollard Mozambique](#) was selected as the implementing insurer with financial and technical support from GIIF to de-risk smallholder farmers through insurance coverage and improve overall agriculture productivity. To date cumulatively, Hollard insurance managed to develop and deliver risk solutions against drought and excess rain for approx. 17,000 farmers, reaching out to close to 85,000 end-beneficiaries with insurance coverage.

During the COVID-19, Hollard Mozambique has operationalized a COVID-19 Committee as part of Business Continuity Planning to implement appropriate risk control procedures. Due to travel restrictions, the insurer supplements limited face-to-face trainings with community radio to communicate with farmers. Improved data collection and risk monitoring are expected to help innovate insurance offerings to increase client value. Hollard Mozambique is taking concrete steps to develop and deploy end-to-end technology solutions in the entire insurance process from enrollment to claims settlement as a future-oriented, cost-effective way to serve farmers. [Read More](#).

## COVID-19 and the Insurance Industry: Why a Gender-Sensitive Response Matters



Women play key roles in their homes, communities, and businesses. If insurers develop targeted approaches and products for women, they have the potential to [earn up to \\$1.7 trillion by 2030](#). They can also help increase women's understanding and willingness to buy insurance products to better protect their families or the companies women own or operate.

The COVID-19 crisis poses new challenges for women and insurers. This guidance note highlights best practices from insurance companies on how they can support female employees, customers, and agents during the pandemic. The publication also explains how women can contribute to the success of the insurance industry and how insurers can better engage with them during the crisis. Explore the Digital Document [here](#).

## Sowing the Seeds of Innovation for Smallholder Finance



Evidence shows that smallholder farmers and small- and medium-sized agribusinesses (agri-SMEs) in the developing world—who provide the majority of the world's food supply—do not have access to adequate financial services that could help them expand their enterprises and support their families. In addition to agricultural credit, farmers need access to savings, insurance, remittances, and payments, in order to manage everyday expenses, pay bills, send their children to school, and save for the future.

This study describes how these nascent collaborative business models are evolving rapidly, as providers learn by doing. However, we can now recognize some of the opportunities and risks these models present. From this analysis, authors propose general insights on how to promote successful cross-industry partnerships and highlight specific steps that private and public sector actors can follow to continue expanding access to rural and agricultural finance in a way that is viable for providers and customers. [Read More](#).

### ABOUT GIIF

The Global Index Insurance Facility (GIIF) is a dedicated World Bank Group's program that facilitates access to finance for smallholder farmers, micro-entrepreneurs, and microfinance institutions through the provisions of catastrophic risk transfer solutions and index-based insurance in developing countries. Funded by the European Union, the governments of Germany, Japan, and the Netherlands, GIIF has facilitated approximately 8 million contracts, covering close to 40 million people, primarily in Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean.

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