Developing a portfolio performance index for the PAYG solar sector
Guidance paper

September 2018
Limited data on the financial and operational performance of PAYG models may limit quality of decision making and growth of sector.

**PAYG has accelerated uptake of off-grid solar**
- Lower cost of collections from automated system

**Lack of data poses barrier to investment**
- Limited data available on historical performance, although GOGLA sales data is a step in the right direction
- Absence of standardized definitions for operational and financial performance indicators restricts structured assessment of PAYG businesses
- Lack of transparency hinders understanding of business model dynamics

**OGS business**
- Sells unit on credit with small upfront cost
- Makes payments via mobile money

**Common KPIs could help investors assess and compare performance of PAYG companies**
- An industry-wide portfolio performance index would:
  - Enable comparability given evolving business models and need to understand portfolio health given varying products, payment periods, repossession strategies etc.
  - Streamline and harmonize the due diligence process for investors
  - Provide structure and help predict future performance based on companies product portfolios
  - Enable operators to improve their customer targeting and credit risk assessment capabilities

**Industry process required to agree whether common KPIs and a performance index are required to improve decision making**

Source: OCA analysis
GOGLA, the World Bank, and IFC have taken the lead to develop standardized metrics to assess PAYG portfolio performance.

This guidance paper outlines options and a roadmap for GOGLA to establish an anonymized portfolio performance index for the PAYG sector based on industry feedback.
Our methodology
This paper builds on the KPI pilot and industry consultations to develop a framework for a PAYG portfolio performance index

1. **Feedback from KPI pilot**
   - Reviewed GOGLA/WB KPI definition and calculation documents
   - Assessed aggregate results of GOGLA’s initial KPI data collection pilot with 7 PAYG companies
   - Analyzed feedback on relevance and ease of calculation of indicators provided by ~10 PAYG companies

2. **Review of other indices**
   - Examined the implementation of performance indices in the microfinance and mobile money industries
   - Assessed implementation challenges, key success factors, and potential impact on investment flows into the industries
   - Identified key learnings for the potential implementation of a PAYG index

3. **Industry consultations**
   - Discussed options for an index with PAYG companies, including KPIs, data collection systems, and incentives for reporting

4. **Development of options**
   - Developed a framework for establishing an anonymized portfolio performance index for the PAYG sector based on the industry view
   - Outlined options for the implementation of a potential index, including data collection, aggregation, comparability and reporting
   - Highlighted key risks associated with the different alternatives
Review of other performance indices
Microfinance and mobile money are examples of industries where performance indices have increased transparency and data quality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Motivations for index</th>
<th>Microfinance</th>
<th>Mobile money</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Provide data which enables FSPs(^1), investors and policy makers to make informed decisions</td>
<td>• Establish comprehensive set of indicators for benchmarking</td>
<td>• Enable providers to benchmark performance against peers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Establish comprehensive set of indicators for benchmarking</td>
<td>• Collect &gt;80 metrics annually</td>
<td>• Track customer adoption rates</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• ~20% of indicators collected change annually</td>
<td>• Stimulate investment through increased sector transparency</td>
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<td>• ~20% of indicators collected change annually after consultations with operators, to reflect business model changes</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Microfinance</th>
<th>Mobile money</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Collects &gt;100 financial, operational and social performance metrics, of which ~50 are standard indicators completed by all FSPs</td>
<td>• Collect &gt;80 metrics annually</td>
<td>• Collected data from &gt;200 mobile money providers in 2017</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>• ~20% of indicators collected change annually</td>
<td>• Data is reported in Excel files, but data collection, cleaning and aggregation is resource heavy</td>
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<th>Data collection</th>
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<td>• 1,033 FSPs reported in 2015</td>
<td>• Collected data from &gt;200 mobile money providers in 2017</td>
<td>• Publishes data collected annually in publicly available State of the Industry Report</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Data is collected annually via an XBRL platform, as prior Excel collection process was time intensive and prone to error</td>
<td>• Data is reported in Excel files, but data collection, cleaning and aggregation is resource heavy</td>
<td>• Mobile money providers receive tailored benchmarking reports</td>
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<tr>
<th>Reporting</th>
<th>Microfinance</th>
<th>Mobile money</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Summary of standard KPI data available in free annual reports</td>
<td>• Publishes data collected annually in publicly available State of the Industry Report</td>
<td>• Mobile money providers receive tailored benchmarking reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Full historical datasets and advanced benchmarking tools require subscription fees</td>
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1: Financial Service Providers

Source: MixMarket and GSMA websites; interview with GSMA Mobile for Development team
Other indices demonstrate the importance of responsiveness and providing businesses and investors with relevant industry insights

1. Choice of data collection methods result in trade-offs between ease of reporting, aggregation and data quality

Continue to test potential data collection methods for PAYG index, and assess trade-offs between quantity and quality of data submitted

2. To ensure business model coverage, other indices have both core and optional metrics or update KPIs regularly

Ensure that KPIs accurately capture evolving PAYG models and portfolios, and adapt metrics as required

3. Tailored benchmarking reports and online reporting platforms provide industry insights for a range of stakeholders

Ensure data collected provides investors with ability to evaluate risk/return and allows PAYG companies to establish their market position vs. competitors

4. MixMarket and GSMA have been responsive to the reporting challenges that companies face and feedback provided

Continue to hold consultations to collect feedback on indicators, data collection, and usability of index outputs

Source: OCA analysis
Framework and options
Our framework for establishing an anonymized PAYG portfolio performance index consists of four key components:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KPIs</th>
<th>Data collection</th>
<th>Communication</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Establishing an index will require defining the number, scope, and complexity of metrics used to track PAYG portfolios</td>
<td>Selecting an appropriate data collection system and defining a clear submission process will maximize reach</td>
<td>Defining channels and frequency of interaction with businesses providing data to ensure responsiveness</td>
<td>Ensuring index data provides relevant insights for businesses and investors creates an incentive to report</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

For each of the components highlighted, we provide options and recommendations for GOGLA and highlight the key trade-offs associated with selecting one option over another.
Successfully implementing an index will require balancing the complexity, scope and comparability of KPIs

Feedback from KPI pilot, industry consultations, and review of other indices:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harmonized versus standardized metrics</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Standardized metrics</strong> emphasize equivalency and require precisely the same definitions and processes across all companies, while <strong>harmonized metrics</strong> are designed to eliminate differences in business models in order to maximize aggregation and comparability.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Current GOGLA KPIs are standardized and have exactly the same definition and methods of calculation regardless of business model submitting data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Feedback from PAYG businesses is that although current standardized KPIs are a step in the right direction, they do not adequately account for differences in product type, payment flexibility and repossession strategies</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number and scope of indicators</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Currently 13 KPIs focused on financial performance of PAYG portfolios, but market feedback is that a more holistic index which incorporates more customer and operational data would maximize usefulness</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definitions and calculations</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Several PAYG businesses highlighted significant challenges in submitting KPIs during the pilot, due to lack of clarity around definitions and assumptions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Many businesses assess portfolio performance or risk using different metrics, or similar metrics but with alternative definitions and calculations</td>
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<tr>
<td>• No common definition of terms such as active account and default rate</td>
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</table>

Source: Feedback from GOGLA KPI pilot, OCA interviews, MixMarket and GSMA websites
A set of standardized KPIs which can be compared within clearly defined peer groups of PAYG businesses is a realistic step forward

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<thead>
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<th>Harmonized versus standardized metrics</th>
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<th>Risks / Considerations</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Harmonize metrics to maximize comparability</td>
<td>• Refine standardized KPIs, and build on existing taxonomy to define peer groups of businesses to benchmark within</td>
<td>• Business models always evolving need to allow for flexibility in definitions, and methods of amalgamation</td>
<td>• Standardized KPIs most plausible given ever evolving industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Refine standardized KPIs, and build on existing taxonomy to define peer groups of businesses to benchmark within</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Need for KPIs to be model specific to ensure credibility</td>
<td>• Align further with stakeholders on calculations, definitions and peer groups</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Run another pilot involving broader stakeholder group before final roll out</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Improve guidance</td>
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<td>• Evaluate potential for standardized core metrics &amp; a number of peer group specific KPIs</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Expand to cover customer and operational data</td>
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<td>• Trade-off between no. of KPIs and willingness to report</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Further refine KPI definitions</td>
<td>• Provide worked examples for calculations</td>
<td>• Consider capacity gaps of operators</td>
<td>• Will not be possible to attain complete consensus on KPIs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Stakeholders agree GOGLA should be responsible for data collection but are unsure of the most appropriate data collection system

Feedback from KPI pilot, industry consultations, and review of other indices:

Organization responsible for data collection

- Businesses generally feel that GOGLA is best placed to collect data and manage an index, as it is the industry association and has already established a trustworthy relationship with PAYG companies (e.g. through monthly collection of sales data via online portal)
- Most stakeholders consulted did not see a need for a 3rd party for data collection or management of an index, and emphasized the need to ensure the privacy of companies reporting
- If 3rd party was to be contracted to implement an index, GOGLA would need to establish rigorous controls and a clear process for oversight

Data collection system

- The market is unsure over the most appropriate system for data collection, but emphasized the need for simplicity, privacy, clarity, and restriction (i.e. form or submission tool immediately rejecting inappropriate data points)
- The advantages of Excel as a submission tool are familiarity and limited need for training of businesses, but is prone to error and will be resource intensive at the data cleaning and aggregation phase
- The data collection platform that was developed by Village Power (VP) is simple to use and has the functionality required for data collection, and could be handed over to GOGLA to eliminate concerns about data privacy

Source: Feedback from GOGLA KPI pilot, OCA interviews, MixMarket and GSMA websites
Our consultations also highlighted clear trade-offs associated with granularity and collected raw data versus calculated KPIs

Feedback from KPI pilot, industry consultations, and review of other indices:

- Approximately half of PAYG businesses consulted highlighted that submitting raw data points rather than calculated KPIs would be preferable as this would reduce level of effort and back and forth over calculation issues.
- The remainder of businesses are not comfortable sharing raw data, and would prefer calculating indicators to avoid misinterpretation of their raw data due to nuances in their business models.
- All PAYG stakeholders and GSMA emphasized that clear definitions and providing worked examples on the computation of the different indicators is a key step in implementing a successful index.

- Clear trade-off between comparability of portfolio performance across models, within peer groups, or between specific product types and the level of granularity of data required.
- Comparing portfolio performance of the different products sold by a company will require submission of calculated KPIs at the product level or raw data at the level of individual sales; however, this will have implications for the data collection system, process and level of effort required.
- Significant risk that requesting data at very granular level will result in reduced submission rates.

Source: Feedback from GOGLA KPI pilot, OCA interviews, MixMarket and GSMA websites
Further pilots, consultations, and assessments are required before selecting final data collection system and process

<table>
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</table>
| **Organization responsible for data collection** | • Limited capacity within GOGLA team to carry out data collection at scale
• Involvement of 3rd party could raise concerns around privacy for PAYG businesses | • Detailed assessment of level of effort required to collect, clean, and aggregate data required
• Parameters of index need to be well defined before assessment |
| **Data collection system**                    | • Excel submissions may still pose aggregation challenges
• Platform may require substantial training for businesses and may require significant iteration | • Assess functionality of VP platform, and pilot as data collection platform hosted on GOGLA website
• Collect further feedback before selecting system |

- **GOGLA responsible** for data collection and analysis
- **Data collection managed by 3rd party** but hosted on GOGLA website, with GOGLA establishing appropriate controls
- **PAYG businesses** submit data in **Excel files** with clear parameters and restrictions
- **Online data collection platform** used to collect data

Source: OCA analysis
To maximize initial reporting, data should first be collected at the company level before exploring options for further granularity

### Raw data versus calculated indicators

- **Businesses submit calculated KPIs** based on definitions and examples
- **Collect raw data points** and calculate KPIs manually or via data collection platform

### Granularity of data

- Continue to carry out data collection at the **company level**
- Request **product level KPIs** for all businesses to improve data quality and enhance comparability

### Options

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Businesses submit calculated KPIs based on definitions and examples</td>
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<td>- Collect raw data points and calculate KPIs manually or via data collection platform</td>
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### Risks / Considerations

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Errors in calculation will be difficult to trace if calculated KPIs are submitted</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Raw data may be misinterpreted due to lack of understanding of model nuances</td>
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### Recommendations

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- During next pilot, ask business to submit raw data and calculated KPIs to compare results</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Explore functionality within VP platform to compute KPIs from raw data</td>
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**Granularity of data**

- Lack of granularity limits usefulness of index
- Trade-off between granularity of data requested, and level of effort and willingness to submit

**Recommendations**

- Initially roll out index collecting data at company level
- Gauge willingness of businesses to submit KPIs by product, and roll-this out over time to maximize usefulness

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**Source:** OCA analysis
The success of a portfolio performance index will require regular communication and responsiveness to business feedback

Feedback from KPI pilot, industry consultations, and review of other indices:

Engagement during data submission period

- Although GOGLA have moved in the right direction on indicator specificity, significant clarification and feedback on indicator definitions and assumptions were required during the KPI pilot data collection phase.
- Several PAYG businesses highlighted that responses to queries were often not timely or at a sufficient level of detail – this led to delays or non-submission for some KPIs.
- If a portfolio performance index for the PAYG sector is to be rolled out at scale, a significant investment of time and resource will be required to educate and support businesses and ensure adequate data quality.

Revisions to KPIs, systems and process

- Rapid pace of change and business model evolution in PAYG solar sector means modifications to an index will be inevitable to maintain relevance.
- MixMarket and GSMA have been successful in establishing broad industry indices through regular engagement on appropriateness and usefulness indicators and systems, acting quickly on feedback from, and clearly communicating changes.
- Numerous workshops, conferences and multiple stakeholder discussions on industry KPIs and data collection have been held, but often, one-on-one or smaller consultations are more effective for collecting meaningful feedback.

Source: Feedback from GOGLA KPI pilot, OCA interviews, MixMarket and GSMA websites
GOGLA should consider establishing a dedicated “help desk” to provide rapid technical support to businesses during submission.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Options</th>
<th>Risks / Considerations</th>
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</table>
| • GOGLA team responsible for KPI pilot continues to provide support  
  • Establish dedicated “help desk” to provide support to companies during submission periods | • Capacity of current GOGLA team limited due to other initiatives  
  • Help desk will provide quality support but will be more costly and resource intensive | • During subsequent pilots spending time one-on-one with businesses will enable GOGLA team to be more effective  
  • Establish dedicated help desk when scaling index |
| • Ad-hoc revisions to indicators, systems and process driven by need  
  • Establish annual forums for agreeing revisions to KPIs and improvements to systems and process | • KPIs do not reflect new models, or poor data collection system results in low response rates  
  • Lack of consistency due to repeated changes to KPIs and process | • Establish annual forums but monitor effectiveness  
  • Set annual limits on revisions to KPIs and systems to maintain consistency, and communicate modifications clearly |

Support and feedback during data submission periods

Annual engagement on revision to indicators or data collection process

KPIs | Data collection | Communication | Reporting | Options | Risks / Considerations | Recommendations |
---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
Source: OCA analysis
Maximizing usefulness of index data through benchmarking and industry insights will incentivize reporting across the industry

Feedback from KPI pilot, industry consultations, and review of other indices:

### Improved benchmarking and investor decision-making

- PAYG businesses want to assess the performance of their portfolio relative to peers regionally and globally, but **lack of transparency around portfolio performance and limited understanding of what “good looks like”** (e.g. in MFI sector PAR30 <5% seen as indication of portfolio quality) is a barrier.
- Despite increased YoY investment flows into sector, there is still a small investor based focused primarily on a few established PAYG companies.
- **Improving investor decision making ability through access to data a key motivation for businesses**, particularly smaller companies who want to demonstrate the viability of their business models vs. established players.

### Enhanced industry insights

- As the sector evolves and multiple off-grid solar products are sold via PAYG models, the **breadth and depth of information required by industry stakeholders increased significantly**.
- Data collected as part of a portfolio performance index could be used to produce industry insights on topics such as portfolio quality, risk and financing options, therefore maximizing the value of data collected.
- MixMarket and GSMA have demonstrated that **producing high quality annual sector performance and thematic reports are also an effective means of attaining buy-in and incentivizing reporting**.

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Source: Feedback from GOGLA KPI pilot, OCA interviews, MixMarket and GSMA websites
A staggered approach to rolling-out reports, insights, and industry tools should be taken to ensure quality and manage level of effort

**Improved benchmarking and investor decision-making**

**Tailored reports**
- Benchmarking businesses against regional and global peers for all KPIs

**Online reporting platform**
- With interactive dashboard capability

**Enhanced industry insights**

**Annual reports**
- Outlining sector trends in portfolio performance

**In-depth thematic studies**
- On topics such as unit economics, credit risk, and cash flow

### Options

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<tr>
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<th><strong>Risks / Considerations</strong></th>
<th><strong>Recommendations</strong></th>
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</table>
| **Tailored reports**
  - Benchmarking businesses against regional and global peers for all KPIs
| Both options may require high level of effort depending on system automation
| Provide tailored benchmarking reports to attain buy-in but automate where possible |
| **Online reporting platform**
  - With interactive dashboard capability | Developing online platform with advanced benchmarking tools potentially costly | Stagger roll-out of online platform, and explore compatibility with collection tools |

### KPIs

- Data collection
- Communication
- Reporting

### Risks / Considerations

- Both options may require high level of effort depending on system automation
- Developing online platform with advanced benchmarking tools potentially costly
- Minimum number of businesses per peer group required to produce useful reports
- In-depth studies will require several years of time-series data to generate insights
- Only disaggregate findings by peer group once dataset is sufficiently large
- In-depth studies will require several years of time-series data to generate insights

### Recommendations

- Only disaggregate findings by peer group once dataset is sufficiently large
- Hold consultations with members to identify most relevant topics for thematic studies

Source: OCA analysis
For each framework component, we outlined a number of options that GOGLA can select from to establish an industry index:

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<th>Data collection</th>
<th>Communication</th>
<th>Reporting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harmonized</td>
<td>GOGLA managed</td>
<td>GOGLA support</td>
<td>Tailored benchmarking reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standardized</td>
<td>3rd party managed</td>
<td>Dedicated help desk</td>
<td>Online reporting platform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portfolio performance only</td>
<td>Collect via Excel datasheets</td>
<td>Ad-hoc revisions to system and KPIs</td>
<td>Annual reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Include ops and customer KPIs</td>
<td>Collect via online platform</td>
<td>Annual forums to collect feedback</td>
<td>Thematic studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Refine KPI definitions</td>
<td>Submit calculated</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provide worked examples of calculations</td>
<td>Submit raw data</td>
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<td>Company level</td>
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<td>Product level</td>
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An effective industry process and roadmap must take into account multiple stakeholder voices and iterate frequently

Gather input from stakeholders on:
- Usefulness and clarity of definitions and calculations
- Review OGS taxonomy and collect feedback on peer groups
- Gauge investor willingness for aligning to KPIs

In addition to KPIs, pilot should test:
- Data collection via platform hosted on GOGLA website
- Trade-offs of collecting raw data vs. calculated KPIs
- Help desk support
- Pilot format for benchmarking reports

Feedback on KPIs and peer groups

Second pilot phase

Establish industry wide index:
- Implement using systems and process identified in pilot
- Provide businesses with benchmarking reports
- Produce first annual report outlining trends in portfolio performance

Process should begin at Kigali event and be time-boxed

After pilot clearly define data collection systems and process

Ensure clearly defined feedback process in place after roll-out

Iterate and improve to establish:
- Core (mandatory) and peer group specific (optional) KPIs
- Thematic topics for studies
- Collection of product level data
- Online dashboards and advanced benchmarking tools

Maintain focus on core goals of index – benchmarking and increased investment

Up to end of 2018

Q1 & Q2 2019

Q3 & Q4 2019

2020 onwards

Improve data quality and insights

Source: OCA analysis
Appendix: detailed review of other performance indices
Performance indices in other industries can provide key learnings for establishing a framework for a PAYGO solar index

The microfinance (MixMarket) and mobile money (GSMA) indices can serve as useful comparisons for the PAYGO solar sector:

- These three industries all target low-income households in emerging markets and have also witnessed rapid expansion over the past years
- They also have comparable business models based on consumer lending and credit repayments
- Like GOGLA, GSMA is also an industry association taking the lead on developing an index to track industry performance

This research sought to understand 6 characteristics of the microfinance and mobile money indices:

1. Initial motivation
   - Understand the driving forces behind establishing an industry index

2. Data collection
   - Types and number of org’s that submit data to the index
   - Review data collection systems and processes, including evolution over time

3. Indicators
   - Highlight the range and complexity of indicators
   - Assess the extent to which indicators vary over time and by business model

4. Reporting and analysis
   - Analyze the methods used to publish index data
   - Assess the usability of online platforms for different org’s

5. Implementation challenges
   - Understand past and current challenges faced in establishing index and actions taken to address these

6. Incentives
   - Highlight mechanisms used to encourage reporting
MixMarket is a non-profit established in 2002 to track the performance of microfinance providers in emerging markets.

1. Initial motivation for establishing index

- Founded by CGAP and funded by several foundations, MixMarket's aim is to provide data and insights which enable FSPs, investors and policy-makers to make informed decisions.
- Providing FSPs with a comprehensive set of indicators to benchmark their performance.
- MixMarket initially focused on collecting MFI data but over time expanded to include other FSPs serving low income groups as industry evolved.

2. Data collection

- 1,033 FSPs reported data to MixMarket in 2015.
- Data is collected annually via XBRL, a freely available platform for exchanging business information which is the standard reporting mechanism for the global financial sector.
- MixMarket moved data collection to XBRL as the prior process of transferring and consolidating data from excel, financial statements, and other sources was time intensive and prone to error.

3. Indicators

- MixMarket collects over 100 financial, operational and social performance indicators, of which ~50 are core indicators.
- Indicators cover portfolio quality, efficiency and productivity, financial management, profitability, and social and environmental impact.
- Several years of consultation with FSPs and investors were required to attain agreement on standard industry indicators.

Key indicators include:

- **Portfolio quality**
  - Portfolio at risk
  - Write-off ratio

- **Efficiency/productivity**
  - Loans per loan officer
  - Cost per loan

- **Financial mgmt**
  - Debt/equity ratio
  - Total expenses/assets

- **Profitability**
  - Return on equity
  - Net operating income

Standard indicators reported have not changed fundamentally since the index launch, indicative of an effective initial industry consultation process.
MixMarket utilizes index data to provide the sector with market insights and an interactive dashboard-based reporting platform

4. Reporting platform

- Freely available annual reports are produced, providing summary data and charts for the standard indicators collected
- Non-anonymized FSP snapshots are also available for free, containing selected outreach, balance sheet and risk and liquidity metrics (e.g. gross loan portfolio, liabilities, PAR 30)
- Users have to pay a subscription fee to access full historical databases, FSPs full financial statements and advanced analytical and benchmarking tools
- Data is also published on the FINclusion Lab platform, which provides users with interactive drill-down dashboards to access aggregated national and subnational sector data

5. Implementation challenges

- Initial excel-based data collection system was prone to error and labor intensive
- Transition to XBRL eased reporting burden, but required simplified reporting forms to be developed to cater to non-technical audience

6. Incentives

- Investor access to the platform has encouraged FSPs to report operational and financial data
- Responsiveness to the issues raised by the org’s submitting data has raised levels of trust

MixMarket established a user-friendly platform for accessing information and created an environment where organizations are comfortable sharing data
GSMA represents mobile network operators (MNOs) globally and collects industry-wide business intelligence data

1. Initial motivation for establishing index

- Launched its Global Mobile Money Metrics and State of the Industry Report (SOTIR) in order to enable mobile money providers to benchmark their performance against their peers
- A key motivation was also to provide an accurate picture of the extent of customer adoption
- Aimed to stimulate investor activities in the mobile money industry through increased transparency and improved decision making

2. Data collection

- In 2017, GSMA collected data from >200 mobile money providers in 90 countries via two Microsoft Excel files
- The first maps the types of the mobile money services carried out by the provider, while the second tailored form collects data against indicators relevant to the provider’s model
- Data collection, cleaning and aggregation require several FT analysts for a few months per year

3. Indicators

- Collect >80 metrics annually for the SOTIR report, but reports 13 industry outreach KPIs on its online Mobile Money Metrics page
- On average, 20% of the indicators collected for the SOTIR report change annually to reflect the evolution of the mobile money industry and ensure useful insights are being provided
- GSMA holds regular consultations with operators on the proposed modification of indicators

Key Mobile Money Metrics include:

- **Availability**
  - No. of live mobile money services

- **Accessibility**
  - Registered agents
  - Active agents

- **Adoption**
  - Registered accounts
  - Active accounts

- **Usage**
  - Volume by product
  - Value by product

The complexity and scope of indicators which GSMA collect on the mobile money industry is likely to increase as the industry evolves

Source: GSMA website; interview with Senior Manager in GSMA’s Mobile for Development team
GSMA publishes data in annual reports used by mobile money operators, investors, and policy makers

4. Reporting platform

- GSMA collects, analyzes and publishes index data in annual SOTIR reports that summarize the financial health of the mobile money industry
- Mobile money data is also shared on a broader online platform (requiring a subscription) that provides info on the mobile industry and MNOs

5. Implementation challenges

- Challenges arose in establishing common indicators which reflected differences in business models e.g. digital vs agency banking
- Have learnt through experience that clearly defining indicators in order to avoid inaccurate calculations is a key step in ensuring consistency

6. Incentives

- User-friendly reporting templates which don’t require extensive calculations encourage responsiveness
- After compiling index data for the year, GSMA prepares a benchmarking report for each mobile money provider which shows their performance for key indicators reported against global and regional averages
- There is a plan to provide Mobile Money Certification to encourage data reporting from organizations

Benchmarking reports provide a clear incentive for providers to report, and can be automated to reduce level of effort required to produce them

Source: GSMA website; interview with Senior Manager in GSMA’s Mobile for Development team
There are a number of relevant lessons that GOGLA can learn from the implementation of indices in other industries (1/2)

Collection methods vary depending on the complexity of the data. While MixMarket uses the XBRL program to collect data for >100 indicators, GSMA collect data via Excel. However, MixMarket have had to provide simplified versions of the software for organizations to report effectively.

Indicators also vary in scope and complexity depending on the sophistication of the industry and goals of the index. To ensure that indicators cover the full range of business models in the sector, MixMarket have both standard and optional metrics whereas GSMA modify up to 20% of their mobile money indicators each year.

Identify an appropriate data collection method taking into account the trade-offs between ease of reporting, data quality and ease of aggregation and analysis.

As the industry continues to grow and business models evolve, ensure that indicators accurately capture the performance of PAYGO portfolios and adapt metrics as required.

Source: OCA analysis
There are a number of relevant lessons that GOGLA can learn from the implementation of indices in other industries (2/2)

User-friendly benchmarking reports and online reporting platforms provide industry insights which add value to a range of stakeholders. Through interactive dashboards and reports, MixMarket and GSMA provide investors with the ability to assess risk and potential returns, and allow businesses to establish their market position versus competitors.

MixMarket and GSMA have been responsive to the challenges that reporting organizations face and feedback provided. This responsiveness has helped reduce issues that organizations encounter when reporting data, attain agreement on indicators, and strengthened levels of trust.

Publishing data on online and user-friendly platform and producing tailored benchmarking reports allow different players to effectively draw industry insights, and consider whether this is appropriate for the PAYGO sector.

Continue to hold consultations with PAYGO businesses and collect feedback on indicators and methods for effective collection of data, as the experience of other industries has shown this is critical to achieve widespread adoption of an industry index.

Source: OCA analysis