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AN ANALYSIS OF FACTORS
FLUENCING CAPITAL STRUCTURE
DECISIONS OF MICROFINANCE
INSTITUTIONS IN KENYA

Statement of the Problem

Study analysed factors influencing capital structure decisions in Finance Institutions in Kenya

General Objective

Analyze factors influencing capital structure decisions in Microfinance Institutions in Kenya

Specific Objectives

Determine how market conditions influence capital structure choice in MFIs

Determine the extent to which growth rate influence capital structure in MFIs

Determine the extent to which Business Risks influence capital structure in MFIs

on in MFIs

Determine the extent to which Financial Flexibility influence capital structure in MFIs

on in MFIs

Hypotheses

H_0 : There is no significant positive relationship between the factors influencing capital structure decisions in MFIs

H_1 : There is a significant positive relationship between the factors influencing capital structure decisions in MFIs

Significance of the Study

(MFIs) have risen to the forefront as invaluable institutions in the development process. capital constraints have hindered the expansion of microfinance programs such that the demand for financial services still far exceeds the currently available supply. The study was significant to the management of the MFIs who gained knowledge on the impact on factors influencing capital structure decisions so as to make sound financial choice on capital structures, as well as scholars.

LITERATURE REVIEW

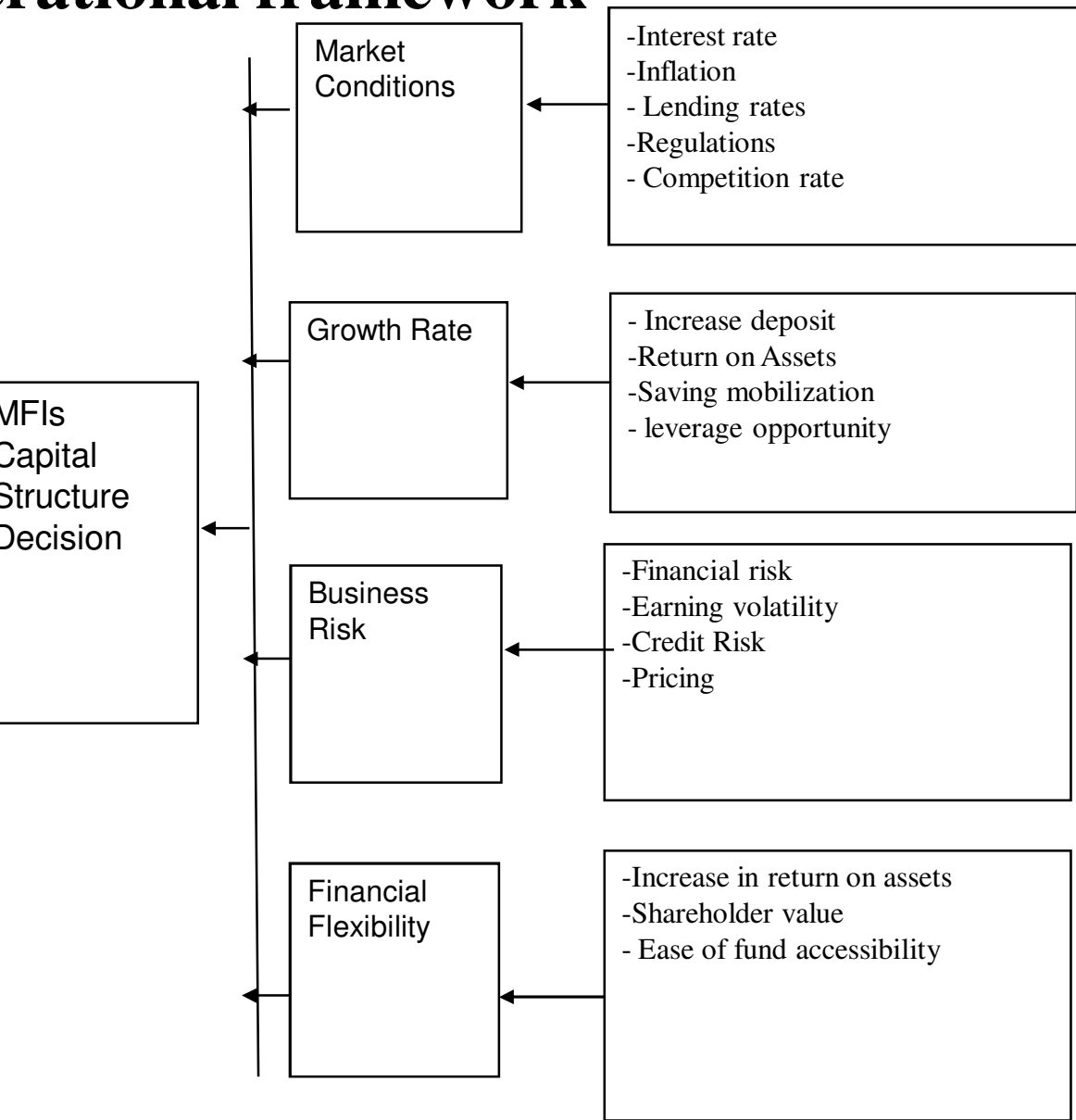
The study was based on the following theories

Modigliani and Miller Theory; with the existence of perfect capital market, capital structure decisions would have no impact on the value of the firm.
Pecking order theory; Businesses adhere to a hierarchy of financing sources: internal financing when available, and debt is preferred over equity if external financing is required.

Tradeoff theory; that the firm will borrow up to the point where the marginal benefit of tax shields on additional debt is just offset by the increase in the probability of possible cost of financial distress. The value of the firm will decrease because of financial distress.

Agency theory; Managers as agents will generally make decisions that increase the value of the firm's equity, because top managers often hold shares in the firm. They are hired and retained with the approval of the board of directors, which is elected by stakeholders (principals).

Operational framework



ARCH METHODOLOGY

Descriptive survey research design in form of a survey was employed. Descriptive statistics were used to describe the main features of data collection in quantitative terms.

Location of the study

MFIs which are registered with Association of Microfinance Institutions in Kenya (AMFIK, 2013).

Sampling design and sample size

The study used simple random sampling technique to select the target population. Simple random sampling was chosen in selecting the sample size as it offers equal opportunities to all items in a population to be selected for the study. Mugenda and Mugenda (2003) indicated that a sample of 10% to 15% of the population was sufficient for a study. Therefore a sample of 49 microfinance institutions was selected for the study. The respondents of the study were senior managers from sampled microfinance institutions.

Data Collection

The study collected both primary and secondary data. The data collection instruments were questionnaires. The questionnaire contained both open and close ended questions. The questionnaire was semi-structured questionnaires.

Validity and reliability

Validity was ensured by pilot-testing the instrument. Reliability of the research instrument was enhanced through a pilot study that was done among staff working in MFIs. Reliability was tested by correlating the scores of each questionnaire for each variable using Pearson product moment correlation coefficient (r)

Data analysis

Statistical Package for Social Sciences software (version 21) was used to generate data and analyze using descriptive statistics. Data presentation was done by the use of pie charts and graphs, percentages and frequency tables. Inferential statistics such as regression analysis was used to establish the extent to which the factors influence capital structure decisions in MFIs. A linear regression model was used to show the relationship between the variables under study.

$$Y = \alpha + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 X_3 + \beta_4 X_4 + e$$

Y= Dependent variable, Capital Structure Decisions

α = Constant

β = Coefficient factor

X_1 = Market Conditions

X_2 = Growth Rate

X_3 = Business Risk

X_4 = Financial Flexibility

e = Error

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF FINDINGS

model summary

Model	R	R ²	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics				
					R Square Change	F Change	df1	df2	Significance Change
	.082(a)	.798	.718	0.34	1.741	6.000	6.207	8.191	.000

Predictors: (Constant), Market Conditions, Growth Rate, Business Risk and
Financial Flexibility

Dependent: Capital Structure Decisions

In the regression model summary analysis, the study established that there
exists a significant positive variability between dependent variable capital
structure decisions and independent variables factors influencing capital
structure decisions; market conditions, growth rate, business risk and finan-
cial flexibility as $R^2 = .798$, Adjusted $R^2 = .718$, $F = 6.000$, $P = .001 < 0.05$.

ANOVA

Model		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
	Regression	3.841	9	.307	5.191	0.01(a)
	Residual	7.714	36	.059		
	Total	11.556	45			

Predictors: (Constant), Market Conditions, Growth Rate, Business Risk and Financial Flexibility

Dependent: Capital Structure Decisions

Table gives an F-test to determine whether the model had a good fit for the data. The F-test (F=5.191, P=0.01 < 0.05) indicated that the model formed between capital structure decisions and factors influencing capital structures. The study established that there was a significant strong positive variation between predictor values market conditions, growth rate, business risk and financial flexibility and dependence variable capital structure decisions at 0.01 significant levels.

Coefficients

Model		Un-standardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
	(Constant)	6.768	.275		3.640	0.001
	Market Conditions	5.883	.405	.857	11.931	0.000
	Growth Rate	4.717	.546	.722	10.803	0.000
	Business Risk	2.668	.520	.591	5.906	0.000
	Financial Flexibility	3.591	.690	.729	1.672	0.000

Predictors: (Constant), Market Conditions, Growth Rate, Business Risk and Financial Flexibility

Dependent: Capital Structure Decisions

$$Y = 6.768 + 5.883 X_1 + 7.717X_2 + 2.668X_3 + 3.591X_4$$

The study tested null hypotheses (H_0), that there is no significant positive relationship between market conditions and capital structure choices in MFIs. The study established that there existed a significant positive influence of market conditions on capital decisions in microfinance institutions as $r = 0.581931$, $P = 0.04 < 0.05$. Therefore the study accepts the alternative hypothesis (H_1), that there existed a significant positive relationship between market conditions and capital structure choices in MFIs.

study tested hypotheses (H_0), that there was no significant positive relationship between growth rate and capital structure decision in MFIs. The study established that there existed a significant positive influence of growth rate on capital decisions in microfinance institutions as $r= 4.703$, $t=5.906$, $P=0.03 < 0.05$. Therefore the study accepts the alternative hypothesis (H_1), that there existed a significant positive relationship between growth rate and capital structure choices in MFIs.

study tested a null hypothesis (H_0), that there was no significant positive relationship between business risk and capital structure decision in MFIs. The study established that there existed a significant positive influence of business risks on capital decisions in microfinance institutions as $r= 4.68$, $t=5.906$, $P=0.01 < 0.05$. Therefore the study rejects the null hypothesis and accepts the alternative hypothesis (H_1), that there existed a significant positive relationship between business risks and capital structure choices in MFIs.

study tested a null hypothesis (H_0), that there was no significant positive relationship between financial flexibility and capital structure decision in MFIs. The study established that there existed a significant positive influence of financial flexibility on capital decisions in microfinance institutions as $r= 4.668$, $t=5.906$, $P=0.01 < 0.05$. Therefore the study rejects the null hypothesis and accepts the alternative hypothesis (H_1), that there existed a significant positive relationship between financial flexibility and capital structure decisions in MFIs.

ARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

dy established that market conditions in which microfinance institutions operate inf structure decision. The study revealed that foreign exchange rates, high interest rate e capital structure decision. Market variations on MFIs funding patterns, the pledgi 's assets as collateral, regulations governing microfinance institutions and the finan governing MFI capital financing options also influenced the MFIs capital structure. dy revealed that prediction of microfinance industry growth influenced the instituti structure decisions to a great extent. The study also revealed that MFI leverage opp e capital structure decision in institutions. The study further revealed that level of r ts, high return rate, market variation in MFI funding patterns and increase in marke y influence financing decisions in MFIs .The study further established that the increa information asymmetries and expected linkage between the existence of tangible a els of debt affects capital financing choice decisions are the growth rate factors influ structure decisions. Leverage opportunity and the tendency towards increased leve al influences capital structure decisions.

e findings, majority of the respondents indicated that interest charge on source of g influence institution decisions on capital structures and explain that interest char, g option determine their level of their profitability and high operating costs and ca nts within the MFI industry have prevented MFIs from meeting the enormous dem

dy found that high risk conditions, credit risks, investment decisions and financial institution decisions on capital structures in microfinance institutions. The study found that high cost of volatility of earnings increases a MFI's probability of financial distress. The cost of fund ration influence financing option . From the hypothesis testing, there is a significant positive relationship between market conditions, growth rate of firm, business risk and financial flexibility of the firm and capital structure choices in MFIs.

ons

dy concluded that market conditions in which microfinance institutions operate influence capital structure decision. The market conditions such as foreign exchange rates, high interest rate, MFI growth and pledging the firm's assets as collateral and regulations governing microfinance institutions and financial policies governing MFI influencing capital financing option. The study therefore concluded that there existed a significant positive relationship between market conditions and capital structure choices in MFIs. The study concluded that predictions of microfinance industry growth influence capital structure decisions to a great extent. The MFI leverage opportunity, level of risk, high return rate, market variation in MFI funding patterns and increase in market share influence capital financing decisions in MFIs. The study also concluded that increase in savings, income and expected linkage between the existence of tangible assets and levels of debt influence capital financing choice decisions are the growth rate factors, leverage opportunity and the total assets. The increased leveraging of capital influences capital structure decisions in MFIs.

dy concluded that interest charge on source of financing and high cost of volatility of earnings increases a MFI's probability of financial distress and high cost of fund ration influence financing option. Saving of MFIs influence financing option decisions, the firm capital expenditure level of borrowing and that spread between the cost of funds and the interest rate charged influence financing decisions in microfinance institution to a very great extent. The study also concluded that MFI's optimal leverage as a function of risk influence financing option decisions. The study also established that there existed a significant positive influence of growth rate on capital structure choices in microfinance institutions accepting that there existed a significant positive relationship between growth rate and capital structure choices in MFIs.

dy concluded that there existed a significant positive influence of business risks on capital structure choices in microfinance institutions. This was because business risks affected operations of microfinance institutions influencing capital structure choices.

dy also established that high cost of volatility of earnings increases a MFI's probability of financial distress and high cost of fund ration influence financing option the study concluded that MFIs influence financing option decisions, the firm capital expenditure, spread between the cost of funds and the interest rate charged. MFI's optimal leverage as a function of risk influence financing option decisions. The study also concluded that there existed a significant positive relationship between financial flexibility and capital structure decisions in MFIs.

Recommendation

The study recommends that MFIs should strive to enhance growth. This was because anticipated growth rate provides a measure of extent to which earning per share (EPS) of MFIs are likely to be affected by leverage. The MFI is likely to use debt financing with limited fixed charge only when equity is likely to be magnified. The management of the MFIs should make a relative cost analysis against debt and equity financing in anticipation to growth in order to determine appropriate capital structure.

The study established that business risks facing microfinance influence capital structure decisions because there exists a negative relationship between the capital structure and business risk. The probability of MFI failure is greater if it has less stable earnings. Similarly, as the probability of bankruptcy increases, the agency problems related to debt become more aggravating. Thus, as MFIs' risk increases, the debt level in capital structure should decrease.

The study recommends that MFIs should increase savings, enhance capital expenditure, spread risk, reduce the cost of funds and the interest rate charged and MFI's optimal leverage as a function of business risk, enhancing the financial flexibility and financing option decisions. This was due to the existence of a significant positive relationship between financial flexibility and capital structure decisions in Microfinance Institutions. The study investigated factors influencing capital structure decisions in Microfinance Institutions in Kenya. The study recommends that a further study should be carried out to investigate the relationship between capital structure and financial performance in micro credit institutions in Kenya. A further study could also be done to determine the effects of capital structures on financial stability in microfinance institutions in Kenya.

END

THANK YOU.