

Advancing financial access for the world's poor

# Financial Inclusion: New Opportunities?

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## Still a long way to go

## Many challenges to

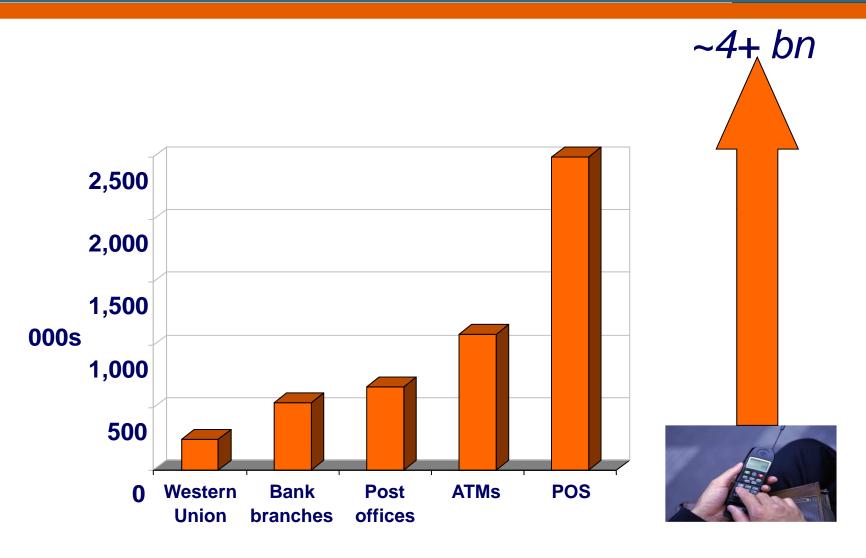
- include more people
- provide services people value

## What more can we do?

This presentation describes and examines branchless banking – one example of pushing the financial inclusion frontiers that is getting considerable attention today.



## Reach of technology





Sources: Western Union, VISA, World Bank, UPU 2006, GSMA, Wireless Intelligence

## Recent mobile money market sizing study

- •There are over 1 billion people in emerging markets today who don't have a bank account but do have a mobile phone
- •Mobile can reduce the cost of delivering financial services by more than 50%.
- •By leveraging the strong brands, technology and distribution networks of mobile operators, mobile money services could reach 290 million unbanked people in the next three years
- Mobile money for the unbanked could represent a US\$5 billion market opportunity by 2012



## M-PESA in Kenya



In first 2 years 5+ mil users in country with 3 mil deposit accounts

### **Impact**

- Sending money home more frequently
- Change in saving patterns
- Effect on local economies

#### **Driving adoption**

- Simplicity of value proposition
- Ubiquitous agent network
- Pricing is right

## Client interface: trust + deployed base







## Distribution: existing retail infrastructure



## Who are the actors

### Agents

- Acquire customers or process transactions
- Foot traffic + revenue (fees, % of float)

#### Banks

Biggest bang for growth oriented institutions

#### MFIs

- Can they handle real time transaction capability?
- Will it disturb group ethos?

## Mobile Network Operators

- Large scale (at least 20% of customer base)
- Reduce churn in an environment of declining ARPUs
- "pipes" / account host + switch / account issuer



### Issues

#### **Banks**

Are they interested? - biggest bang for large and growth oriented institutions.

#### **MFIs**

Business case not well defined and few examples so far.

## Mobile Network Operators

 Large scale, considerable interest, but do they have what is needed to pursue a financial inclusion agenda?

### Agents

 Acquire customers and / or process transactions, but need sustainable business with the right incentives.

### Regulators

Key role but often lack understanding of the issues.



### **Discussion**

- To what extent does branchless banking represent an opportunity to take financial inclusion to the next level?
- What needs to be done if branchless banking is to be successful in reaching many poor people?
- Do current financial sector policy and regulation trends support new opportunities for promoting financial inclusion?
- What other financial service provision approaches could significantly change the financial inclusion numbers over the next ten years?



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