About the Product(s)

Countries of Operation: Jordan
Product status: Active
Number of Members: At the end of October 2010, MicroFund for Women had enrolled 3,100 women. The Caregiver product will be offered to MicroFund for Women's nearly 40,000 borrowers. Approximately 96% of MicroFund for Women's borrowers are women.
Institutional Model: Partner-agent
Type of Coverage: Credit linked
Type of Policy: Group policy
Provider of health services: Both public and private providers
Sum insured:

Policyholders receive 10JD (US$14) for each night spent in the hospital.

Benefits and services covered: Hospitalization

Hospital cash can be used to cover paymen of per diem for each night in the hospital, cost of hospitalization, lost income when not working, travel costs and any other costs associated with not working while sick.

Premium Amount: 1.1JD (US$1.55) payable monthly for loan term/policy period
Subsidy: No subsidy
Healthcare provider paid by: Capitation (fixed payment per person per period- determined by enrolment, and not influenced by utilization)
Insurer or third party (“cashless” to patient)

About the organization(s)

MicroFund for Women (MFW) started as a Save the Children lending program in 1994 and was registered as a local non profit company under the Ministry of Trade in 1999.

MFW aims to harness the productive capacity of microentrepreneurs in Jordan, especially women, by providing them with financial and non-financial services. Its work contributes to the empowerment of underprivileged women as they become income earners and decision-makers in their communities and to reduce unemployment by enhancing economic opportunities and providing support to entrepreneurial enterprises.

Lessons from the scheme

Click on the links below to view more details on the emerging lessons.

- Having insurance may increase health seeking behaviour.
- Clients appear to be able to use a hospital cash product with ease. Although claims rates may increase over time, the actual frequency of hospitalization may be less than expected, thus keeping claims costs low.
- Client reaction to a mandatory hospital cash product is generally positive.
- Clients need to understand how to submit claims.
- Loan officers not familiar with insurance may be reluctant to offer and service insurance products.
- The insights gleaned from client focus groups are invaluable to shape the final product and its features.

More about the scheme/information sources

Sources:

- MicroFund for Women website
- Women's World Banking website

Last updated January 2013.