Micro-Finance

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Abstract
Access to finance is often cited as the most serious constraint by micro, small and medium enterprises in Tanzania. Access is even more difficult for the disadvantaged groups, such as women, youth, the disabled and rural dwellers. Typically, these groups are trapped in a vicious cycle of marginalisation, with limited social and human capital, limited access to resources and limited power, making it difficult for the conventional markets to work for them. Therefore for this to happen, different institutional and product innovations are required. This chapter explores the needs, challenges and prospects for enabling the disadvantaged groups to overcome their liabilities and become part of the financial services market.