



# mAgri and Weather Content

How mobile operators benefit from mAgri services and what weather content brings to the product mix





Why is GSMA involved?

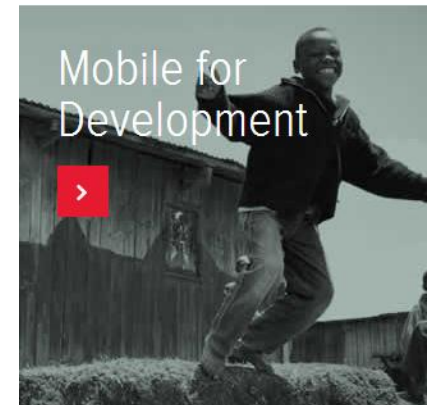
Why Mobile Agriculture?





# GSMA Mobile for Development works with the industry to develop commercial services for the underserved

- GSMA Mobile for Development brings together our mobile operator members, the wider mobile industry and the development community to drive commercial mobile services for underserved people in emerging markets.
- We identify opportunities for social, economic and environmental impact and stimulate the development of scalable, life-enhancing mobile services.



Digital Inclusion



Mobile Money for the Unbanked



Utilities



mAgri



mHealth



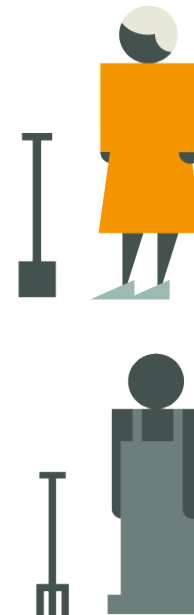
Disaster Response





## mAgri: Mobile as a key channel to provide critical information to smallholder farmers

- Future mobile subscriber growth will be driven by rural areas, which GSMA estimates to be 1.8bn people throughout the next five years.
- Productivity of smallholder farmers is low in emerging markets due to poor access to information, affordable finance and efficient supply chain & infrastructure.
- GSMA mAgri is uniquely placed to leverage the mobile channel and bring together mobile operators, agriculture organisations and development community to foster sustainable, scalable mobile services.



# What are mAgri applications and services for?

## Key Challenges

### Productivity Losses

Poor knowledge of agri-inputs & nutrition, new technologies  
Non-availability of prices for crops across markets  
Lack of accurate weather information



## mAgri Applications & services

### Information & Advisory service

Agriculture, livestock & nutrition services  
Market prices  
Weather forecast service

### Supply Chain Inefficiencies

Gap in supply-demand match  
Intermediaries act in silos  
Poor logistics – causing wastage



### Supply Chain services

Raw materials sourcing and enhancement  
Real time visibility of supplier networks  
Track & trace facility of products in supply chain

### Financial Exclusion

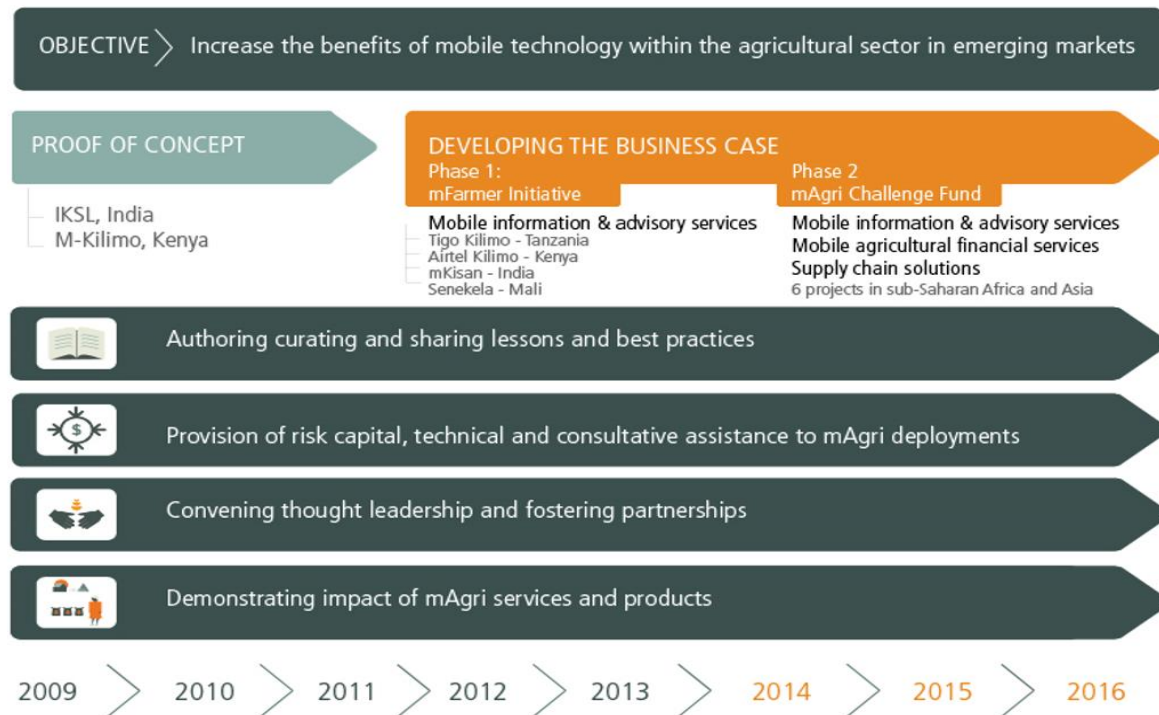
Non availability of loans, payment facilities, savings  
Non availability of insurance for protection against crop failure



### Mobile Financial services for farmers

Payments enabled by m-payment facility  
Availability of savings, credit products  
Micro insurance for crops

# GSMA mAgri aims to catalyze the industry through direct engagement and knowledge sharing





## mFarmer services have launched across 4 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia

- Started in 2011, the “mFarmer” initiative has now come to an end. GSMA partnered with USAID and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.
- mFarmer provided support to design, launch and improvement of mAgri services for farmers.
- Support included seed funding, local content, consumer research and service design, technical assistance, support to build the product and develop the business case.
- Partnerships with operators, service providers and agriculture partners.





## The mAgri challenge fund is our ongoing initiative aiming to reach 2 million smallholders

- Supported by the UK Government under the “mNutrition” initiative, the “mAgri Challenge Fund” launched in 2014.
- The challenge fund aims to reach 2 million users with life-changing mobile agriculture services.
- We provide risk capital to strong and innovative projects selected through a competitive application process - up to GBP 250,000 per project.
- Current grantees are Airtel Malawi, Vodafone Ghana, Dialog Sri Lanka, Telenor Pakistan, Grameenphone Bangladesh and Ooredoo Myanmar.



vodafone







# Business Model Considerations for Mobile Network Operators (MNOs)



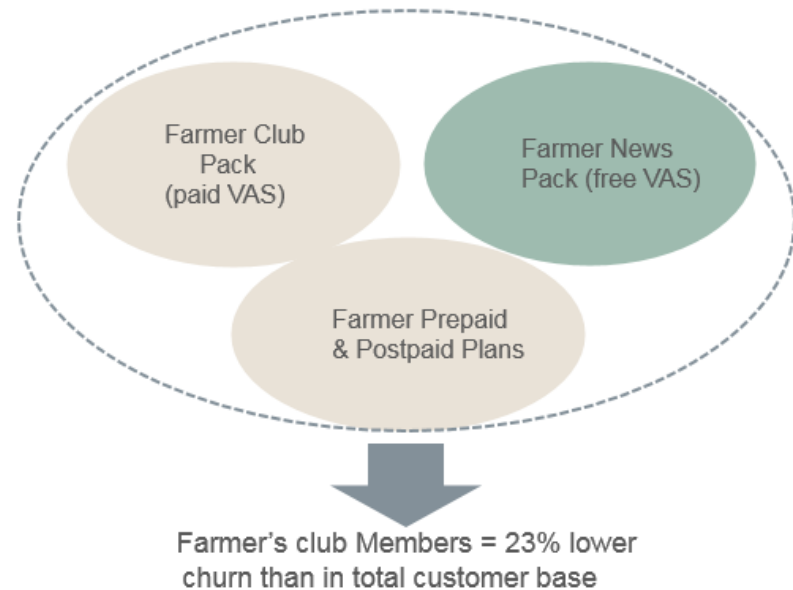
## mAgri services show potential to generate direct and indirect business benefits for MNOs

Business Model	Key Feature	Specific Barriers	General Barriers
Direct Revenue B2C	Smallholder farmers pay a fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low WTP and ATP</li> <li>• High marketing cost</li> <li>• Commoditisation of information</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poor network coverage</li> <li>• Cost of devices</li> <li>• Cost of content</li> <li>• Forming partnerships with content providers</li> <li>• Language and literacy barriers</li> <li>• Technology barriers</li> <li>• Forming viable MNO and VAS Provider partnerships</li> </ul>
Direct Revenue B2B	Agribusinesses pay for farmers to access the service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limited MNO skills in enterprise relationships</li> <li>• Market decentralisation</li> </ul>	
Direct Revenue Hybrid	Agri VAS generate revenue from farmers and agribusinesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Challenges and cost of creating value for both sets of customers</li> </ul>	
Indirect Benefits	MNO supports service to drive churn reduction, network usage etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Difficulty in quantifying indirect benefits</li> </ul>	
Subsidised Model	Donors/NGOs or private companies fund the service for developmental purposes or CSR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continued support depends on donor's primary objectives</li> <li>• Change in donor's strategy leads to scaling back operations</li> </ul>	

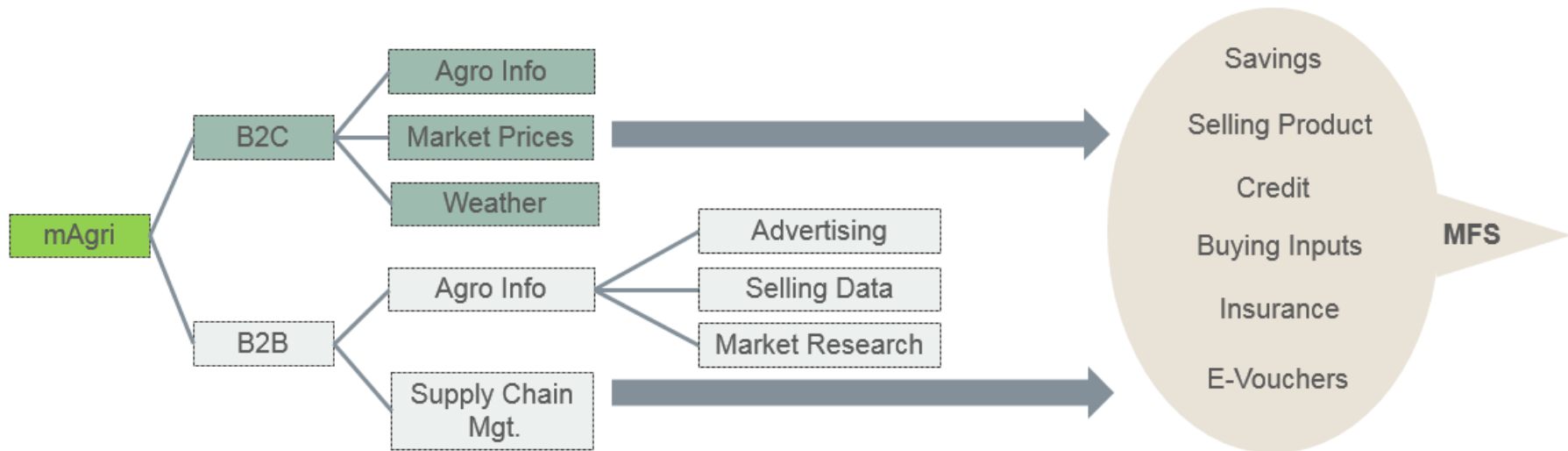
## There is a case for MNOs to consider the indirect business benefit model in mAgri initiatives

- Services focusing on indirect business benefits have proved viable.
- There is a case for the indirect benefits model where poor rural farmers have low ATL and WTL.
- To build scale while covering cost, there is potential for MNOs to deploy a freemium model.

**Vodafone Turkey Farmers' Club: Freemium Model**



## mAgri services open up to new opportunities in mobile financial services (MFS)





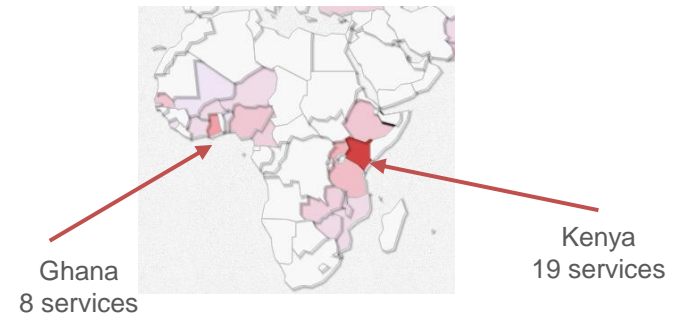
## Sizing the Opportunity for mAgri in Emerging Markets





## Current State of mAgri in Africa and South Asia

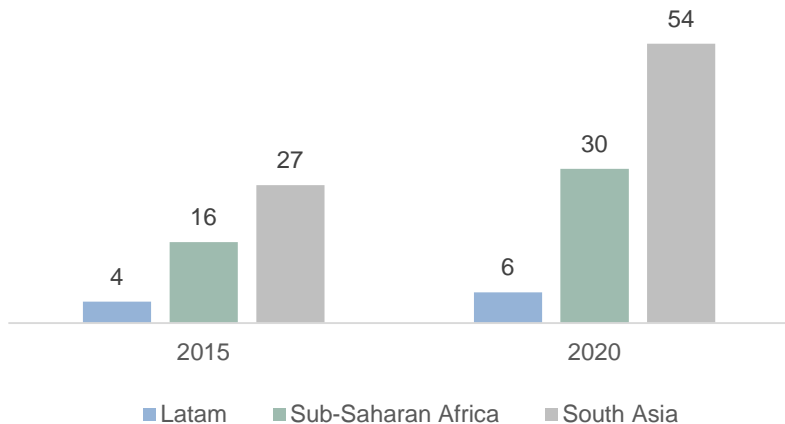
- 120+ mAgri deployments from MNOs, VAS providers, NGOs across emerging market regions
- Not enough services are providing meaningful revenue or scale to MNOs.
- Most services are not reaching scale or financial viability.
- There is a vast variety of services ranging from information/advisories, supply chain and financial services.



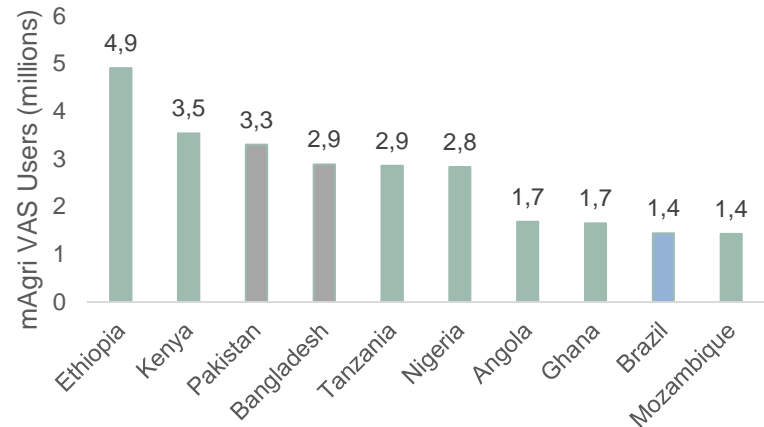
Source: GMA mAgri Deployment Tracker

# The mAgri user base in key emerging regions can expand to 90+ million by 2020

Potential mAgri users, 2015 and 2020  
(agricultural workers with a mobile phone subscribing to agri VAS)



Potential mAgri users in 2020, selected countries\*

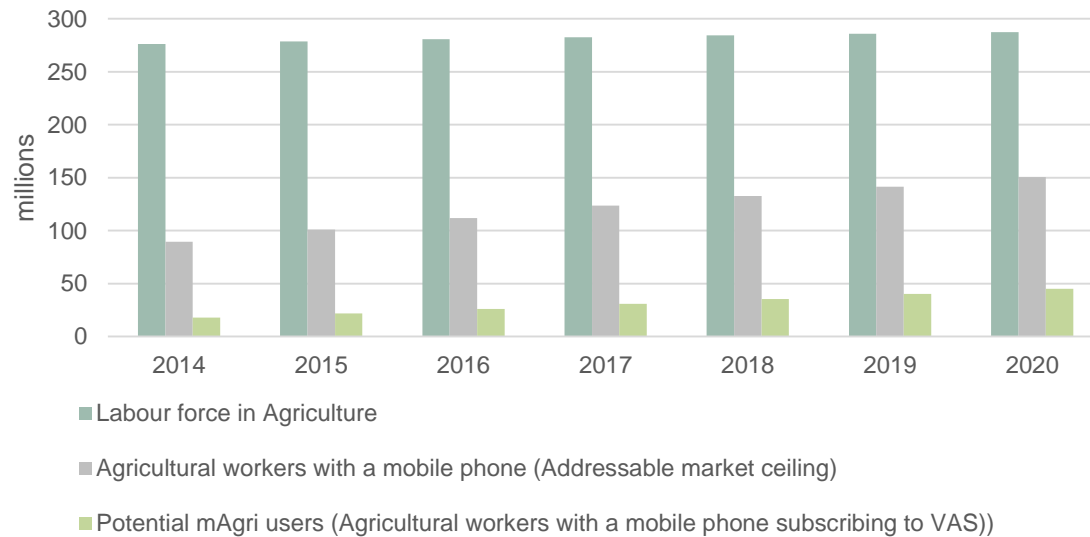


\*Selected countries (excl. India as an outlier)

Source: GSMA mAgri and GSMAi

## India has potential to grow to 45 million users by 2020, 15% CAGR in 2016-2020

India, potential mAgri users to 2020





## Weather Content: Current Trends and Potential to Innovate in mAgri



## Weather forecasts (via mobile) are in demand but this content is one of the most challenging to provide

### Relevance

- Providing 3+ day forecast for tropics is challenging
- Weather models achieving higher resolution (i.e. ISKA)
- Can we have seasonal forecasts?
- Can we extend beyond rain?

### Localisation

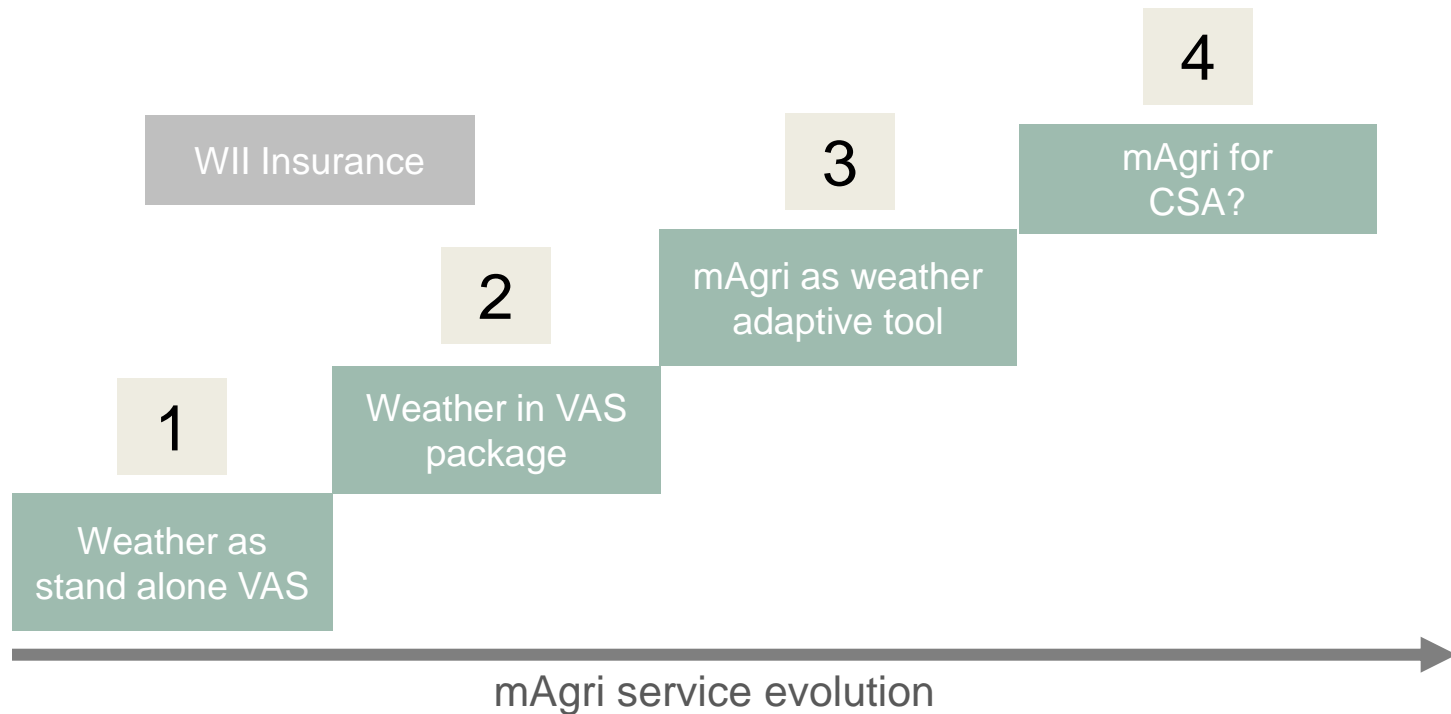
- MNOs can help (triangulation, verification calls, and of course GPS)
- Can we provide highly localised (farm level) weather forecasts?

### Frequency

- With market prices, weather is a dynamic content piece
- To what extent can MNOs/VAS manage a large and constantly evolving content volume?



## Weather content presents an opportunity to differentiate and evolve the service proposition



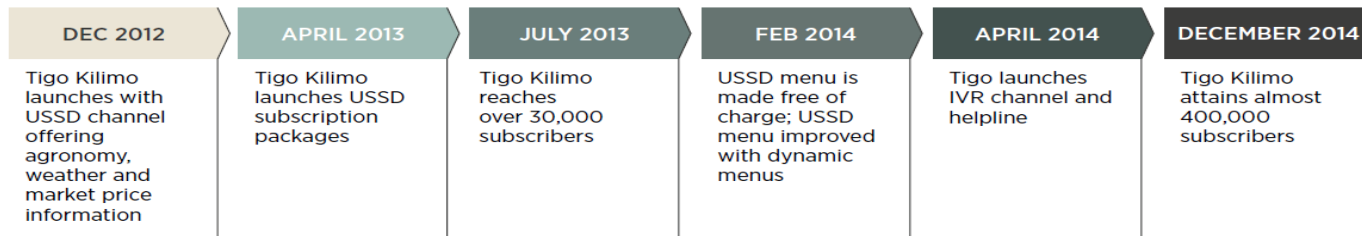


## How is weather content being used so far? Some results from the mFarmer initiative

- **Airtel Kilimo (Kenya):** 68% of users join to learn new agricultural practices. Just 2% say they joined for the weather forecast service.
- **mKisan (India):** Of the 33% of users who reported making changes to their agricultural practices due to mKisan advice, 33% reported seeing a better yield, 2% felt they could better predict the weather.
- **Tigo Kilimo (Tanzania):** 32% of repeat users reported using weather forecasts to change their farming practices in the previous 12 months. Weather is the most dynamic content on the service, changing almost every day.

# Case study: Tigo Kilimo Tanzania – Understanding weather forecasts as actionable mAgri content (1)

## PRODUCT TIMELINE



## PRICING MODEL FOR TIGO KILIMO DECEMBER 2014

SERVICES CURRENTLY OFFERED	CHANNELS	CHARGE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agronomy tips</li> <li>• 1-5 day weather forecasts</li> <li>• Market prices</li> </ul>	USSD (pull)	Free
	SMS subscription (push)	Free
	IVR (pull)	50 TZS (0.03 USD)/access
	Call Centre (pull)	6 TZS (0.004 USD)/second



## Case study: Tigo Kilimo in Tanzania – Understanding weather forecasts as actionable mAgri content (2)

### Results:

- Weather content has been in high demand in the user base.
- Tigo has improved its most popular channel (USSD) to incorporate more menu options based on the availability of dynamic content (weather forecasts and market prices).

### Looking ahead:

- Users desire more frequent market information, and more locally accurate weather information including longer-term seasonal forecasts.

#### WEATHER FORECASTS

**W** I decided to use Tigo Kilimo service on the weather section and they told me that there was a high probability of rain and... the same night it rained [heavily] until morning and my paddy grew. From that day and onwards, I trusted the information provided by them.

*Sisemi, Mang'ula,  
Kilombero district* **W**



## Some questions we need to answer

- What is the potential for MNOs and VAS providers to innovate/transform their mAgri services with dynamic weather and agriculture content?
- What is the potential from a technology standpoint?
- What role can geo data play in the coming years?
- To what extent can weather forecasts change the product offering?
- To what extent can mAgri become a climate adaptive tool?







Thank you!

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