

# What Drives Microfinance Institutions Adopting Technology in Indonesia? Pre-Adoption and Post Adoption Approach in Indonesia

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We study Microfinance Institutions (MFIs) behavior towards towards technology-based microfinance system. Using a survey of 1371 MFIs from 33 provinces in Indonesia, we employ SEM-PLS approach to estimate intention to use (pre-adoption stage) and intention to continue the use of technology adoption (post-adoption stage) to observe MFIs behavior towards technology-based microfinance system. The results show MFIs perceived benefits to adopt technology and environment context are the strongest drivers for MFIs to encourage adopting technology. Further, overall company performance and financial capability as proxy of MFIs satisfaction after adopting the technology will increase MFIs motivation to continue using technology. Overall, our findings suggest that government support in smoothing digital microfinance ecosystem development drives shifting in most transaction of microfinance to digital platform. Eventually it will lead to higher satisfaction for MFIs due to realization of perceived benefits and increases MFIs intention to continue adopting the technology.

Keywords: Microfinance, TOE, Technology Adoption, Post Adoption, Intention

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#### 1. Introduction

Developments in information technology and digital finance are transformed finance's market structure, including the microfinance industry (Kauffman and Riggins, 2012). Disruption in financial services cause the types of Micro Finance Institutions have become increasingly diverse and may become direct competitor to traditional MFIs, such as Peer-to-Peer Lending (Wang, 2021). Peer-to-Peer lending (P2P), an online direct lending platform to individuals or businesses integrates without an official, traditional financial intermediary participating as an intermediary. With its ability to directly match borrowers and lenders by disclosing borrowers' information, P2P can effectively solve the SME's information opaqueness, reducing information and transaction cost, and improving financial efficiency (Yum et al., 2012; Liu et al., 2019; Stiglitz & Weiss, 1981).

Microfinance has been praised for reducing poverty by fostering self-employment in lowincome communities by offering access to financing. Although the first well-known microfinance providers (MFP) were Grameen Bank in Bangladesh (Yunus, 1999), Indonesia is renowned for its mass-scale microfinance sectors, led by the largest microfinance provider (MFP) serves microlending, Bank Rakyat Indonesia. There are several forms of MFP in Indonesia, including commercial banks, rural banks, peer-to-peer lending, and microfinance institutions (MFIs) that are mostly micro cooperatives for rural communities with limited capital. There are over 60,000 MFIs that reaching more than 50 million people (CGAP, 2013). However, only 221 MFIs are supervised by Otoritas Jasa Keuangan (OJK/Indonesia Financial Services Authorities).

Nevertheless, the use of ICT has become primary business strategy of most financial providers (Kauffman & Riggins, 2012). Moreover, it is generally believed that mobile technology in several studies has been identified as key factors for ICT penetration especially in developing countries (Choi et al.,2006; Mushtaq & Bruneau, 2019). On the other hand, MFIs originally was rather low tech both from MFIs themselves and their customers who mostly underserved people. Disruption in financial industry and remarkable growth of P2P<sup>1</sup> made information and communication technology (ICT) adoption for MFIs in inevitable. Furthermore, the use of ICT has further been pointed out as one of the ways MFI can attain their objectives, broaden the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> OJK Fintech Statistics September 2021. www.ojk.go.id: Licensed P2P has been growing from IDR3T (January 2018) to IDR14T (September 2021).

coverage of microfinance services and potential solution to MFI survivability (Diniz et al., 2008; Kauffman & Riggins, 2012).

Previous literature on technology adoption and MFIs have well been scrutinized, where many empirical studies have explored from different angles, including mobile technology adoption (Mwafise & Stapleton; 2012; Ammar & Ahmed, 2016; Dorfleitner et al., 2018); as well as website accessibility (Tadele et al., 2016). Other studies have observed the impact of MFI's technology adoption, such as MFI survivability [Kauffman & Riggins, 2012] and competition (Wang, et al. 2021) and poverty and inequality (Mushtaq & Bruneau, 2019).

To date there has been limited formal research on the determinants of ICT adoption in the microfinance industry and post-adoption experience—something that we think is important to address. Most of MFIs are micro small enterprises (MSEs) with limited capital, limited access to funding resources, and lack of capable human resources (Dorfleitner, et al.;) to support technology adoption. Thus, this study helps government and related party to focus their effort on factors that will encourage MFIs to embrace technology adoption.

We will apply concept from Technology, Organizational, and Environment (TOE) to develop robust theoretical framework to observe technology adoption determinants. Moreover, we aim further post adoption experience to observe factors that support continuation use of technology adoption by MFIs. To do this, we first provide a literature review in Section 2 of two relevant areas of research: (1) MFIs development in Indonesia; (2) Theoretical framework development. In Section 3, we describe research methodology which is consist of the datasets used in analysis and the modeling framework. The following section presents the estimation results and analysis. The final section concludes the empirical study with implications to policymakers and MSME in Indonesia.

#### 2. Literature Review

## 2.1 MFIs Definition

Indonesian Law 1/2013 on microfinance institutions (MFIs Law) define microfinance institutions as a financial institution that is especially established to provide services in business development and society empowerment by giving loans or financing for micro-scaled business of MFI members and society, providing deposit management, or giving consultancy services in business development that is conducted not merely for profit. Ledgerwood (1999) an economic

development approach intended to benefit low-income women and men by providing financial services social intermediation services such as group formation, development of self-confidence, and training in financial literacy and management capabilities among members of a group. Thus, the definition of microfinance often includes both financial purposes and social purposes. Microfinance is not simply banking; it is a development tool.

There is a different character of MFIs in Indonesia and MFIs in other countries in term of business size and capability. MFIs example in other countries such as Grameen Bank and ASA in Bangladesh, FONDEP Micro-Crédit in Marocco. Amhara Credit and Savings Institution in Ethiopia are medium or large enterprises that providing microfinance services. In contrast, MFIs in Indonesia are mostly micro and small enterprises that serving micro customers. Thus, in this study we focused on MFIs that classify as micro and small enterprises.

## 2.2 Overview of microfinance evolution in Indonesia

Microfinance begins in Indonesia in the late 19th century by establishing the People's Credit Bank (Bank Kredit Rakyat) and Lumbung Desa<sup>2</sup>. These two institutions were formed to assist farmers, workers, and laborers to free themselves from loan sharks. In 1905, the People's Credit Bank coverage was upgraded and changed to the Village Bank, whose services were extended to cover business activities outside the agricultural sector. In 1929, the East Indies Government issued Law No. 137 of 1929 regarding the establishment of the Village Credit Board (BKD) to manage rural credit schemes in Java and Bali.

After independence, the Indonesian Government supported local governments (province) to form *Bank Pasar<sup>3</sup>* as well as MFIs. Institutions formed from this action such as Rural Credit and Funds Institutions (LDKP) in West Java, the County Credit Board (BKK) in Central Java, Credit for Small-scale Businesses (KURK) in East Java, Lumbung Pitih Nagari (LPN)<sup>4</sup> in West Sumatra and the Village Credit Institution (LPD) in Bali (Bank Indonesia, 2003). At that time these institutions known as Bank Pasar or BKK, instead of MFIs (MFIs terms was not popular those days). Government then issued Law No. 7 of 1992 regarding banking sector, which only recognize two types of banks in Indonesia: commercial banks and rural banks. Financial institutions that did

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Lumbung Desa was an institution in rural areas that provided loans and collected saving in the form of rice.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Bank Pasar is a bank specializing in small, low-interest loans to petty traders

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Lumbung Pitih Nagari is an institution that provides saving and loans services within a *nagari* (an area of land belonging to a traditional community in West Sumatra).

not fulfill the requirements in the banking law has been considered as non-formal financial institutions or illegal banks. Ibrahim (2003) found 2,272 LDKP and 5,345 BKD failed to meet the requirements as rural banks.

Reflecting on MFIs long history, it is not surprisingly that many forms of MFIs founded. Most MFIs are result from government program to reduce poverty. However, those MFIs depends on government subsidy which can be different over the time. Government program overlapping, ambiguous in regulation and authority, and competitions are some factors that harm MFIs survivability.

Nowadays, Otoritas Jasa Keuangan (OJK/Indonesia Financial Services Authority) has been mandated to license, regulate, and supervise MFIs. This action is taken to centralize MFIs development in one government agency.

## 2.3 Technology Context

According to the TOE framework, the organizational adoption of technology could be affected by the organizational context, which defines the organizational characteristics affecting the organizational adoption of new innovative technology (Chau & Tam, 1997). This research uses four indicators that consider the organizational context: Top Management Support, Financial Resources, Markets and Products, and Business Model. Top management support plays a significant role in starting, executing, and adopting technologies, their support can be found in their sponsoring of initiatives and participating in the adoption of new technologies within the organization, in the form of resources allocation (e.g., budget, time, human resource) (Lian, J. W., Yen, D. C., and Wang, Y. T, 2014). Financial resources have been a significant factor affecting a firm's technology adoption due to the high investment requirements in hardware, software, and employee training. Lack of funding was the main constraint that MFIs face in making better use of technology in supporting the organization's operations (European Microfinance Network, 2012). For sustainability, MFPs need to have high financial coverage of the market. MFPs need to provide a range of tailored financial products/services to the market to reach the entire target customers (Kimando and Kihoro, 2012). Researchers stress the need to match the strength of the MFP with the identified market opportunities (Ngumbao, 2012). Business models have primarily been used to clarify the utilization of ICT in business or m-commerce associations (Bouwman, H., De-Vos, H., Haaker, T., 2008; Timmers, 1998); strategic matters - such as organization performance, value creation, and competitive advantage, (Teece, 2010); and innovation and technology management (Bjorndal, 2009).

H1. Technological context has a positive effect on adopt technology-based microfinance services.

# 2.4 Organizational Context

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H2. Organizational context has a positive effect on adopt technology-based microfinance services.

## 2.5 Environmental Context

The environmental contexts are discussed from three of view: regulatory environment, pressure from stakeholders, and government support. Zhu, Kraemer (2004) defined regulatory support as "ways in which government regulation (laws) could affect innovation diffusion". The success of

digital adoption will depend upon the established legal framework for their operations. This framework is a crucial requirement in developing countries to identify legal problems and vital legislation for their specific needs. These needs can include security, privacy and data protection and authentication. Likewise, there is a requirement for a whole legal framework to be evolved that covers all issues related to ICT and m-banking applications. Regulations are required to enable the successful adoption and adaptation of financial services, encourage their use, and increase competition among providers (Claessens and Rojas-Suarez, 2016) in the core market and supporting functions.

Moreover, government support positively correlates with SaaS adoption by Indonesian firms (Mangula et al., 2014). Mwela (2014) study of ICT and microfinance reports that NGOs provide more support than the government. Furthermore, the pressure from stakeholders refers to stress from customers and pressure from partners. The more consumers demand a company to provide up-to-date products or services, the more it is willing to adopt this technology (Wu and Chang, 2003); also, the business partners who have embraced new technologies earlier can encourage their partner companies to follow them (Zhu and Kraemer 2005)

H3. Environmental context has a positive effect on adopt technology-based microfinance services.

## 2.6 Digital financial literacy

Digital financial literacy is explained in two points of view: digital literacy and financial literacy. Digital literacy refers to a set of basic skills in using technology. Previous research by Bruno et al. (2010) and Van Deursen and Van Dijk (2014) argue that inadequate digital skill is considered a barrier to experiencing the benefit of using information technology. Moreover, a study by Yu et al. (2017) found that low information literacy negatively leads to information communication adoption behavior.

On the other side, financial literacy is defined as the knowledge and skills to manage financial resources to make effective financial matters. Njenga and Ndlovu (2012) stated that the new mobile banking user might have low financial literacy and expose the risk of losing privacy, services, and fraud. Financial literacy is important when an individual shifts from traditional banking to mobile banking; therefore, there is a new behavior change (Cohen and Nelson, 2011). With sufficient knowledge of financial literacy, users can obtain the full benefit of using financial services and make a proper financial management decision (Huhmann and McQuitty, 2009).

H4. Digital Financial Literacy has a positive effect on adopt technology-based microfinance services.

#### 2.7 Perceived Benefits

Relative benefits are realized when a new service offers greater value to an organization than existing ones, such as improvements in economic benefits, organization image, convenience, and satisfaction to customers (Rogers, 1995; Taylor and Todd, 1995). In Kenya, the perceived relative advantage was a significant determinant of m-banking usage (Mburu, 2015). Al-Shamaileh and Sutcliffe (2013) found that perceived relative advantages significantly impacted the adoption decision on cloud computing. Wang'oo (2013) accomplished those relative advantages were a positive factor influencing the adoption of m-banking in rural Kenya.

H5. Perceived benefits have a positive effect on adopt technology-based microfinance services.

## 2.8 Intention to Actual Use

Following up a previous study from Tao (2009), the study found that the determinants of intention to use significantly predict actual use behavior. Customers' intention is explained as the base for actual behavior in adopting a new system and technology (Venkatesh et al., 2003). Regarding technology adoption, empirical studies have supported the findings that behavioral intention significantly affects the actual use behavior (Lim et al., 2011; Venkatesh et al., 2012; Yun et al., 2013; Zheng et al., 2012; Baptista and Oliveira, 2015).

H6. Perceived benefits have a positive effect on adopt technology-based microfinance services.

### 2.9 Actual use to firm financial capability and overall performance

The empirical study by Isobe et al. (2008) explains that the company that has implemented the technology system in their operational has the advantage in adapting to environmental changes. Furthermore, the technology adoption will improve the firm productivity. Thus, the better the technology implementation, the better the firm performance (Rao et al., 2015). In addition, several researchers argue that technology adoption decreases operational costs (Saloner and Shepard, 1995; Benitez-Amado et al., 2010) and increases the firm's efficiency and effectiveness (Milne, 2006).

H7a. Actual use contributes significantly and is positively related to firm financial capabilityH7b. Actual use contributes significantly and is positively related to firm overall performance

## 2.10 Overall firm performance to financial capability and technology continuos adoption

Firm performance can be defined as utilizing its assets to generate profit (Marimuthu et al., 2009). Harash et al. (2014) explain that small business performance involves the degree to which the owner can manage its operational purpose and goals. In addition, Garman and Forgue (2011) argue that an increase in firm capability or performance can create awareness in firm profit and how such funds have to be used and managed efficiently.

Regarding the intention to continuous adoption of digital financial technology, we use the theory by Oliver (1980) concerning the cognitive model of the antecedents and consequences of satisfaction decisions. The study reveals that the satisfaction of certain systems influences post-exposure attitude. In this case, satisfaction measured by the adaptation of pre-exposure attitude sequencely affects the intention in usage behavior. Therefore, we hypothesize that firm performance and financial capability influence the technology's continuous adoption after using digital financial technology (Obal, 2017).

**H8a.** Overall firm performance contributes significantly and is positively related to firm financial capability

**H8b.** Overall firm performance contributes significantly and is positively related to firm technology's continuous adoption

**H9.** Financial capability contributes significantly and is positively related to firm technology's continuous adoption

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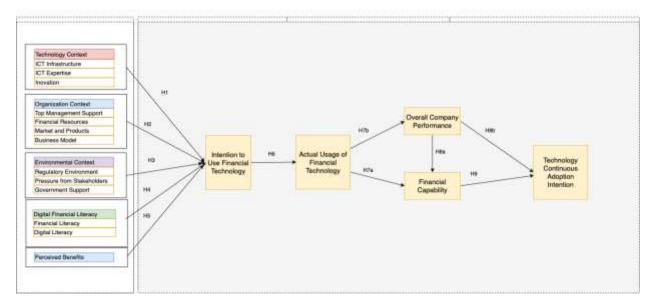


Figure 1 The proposed conceptual model

#### 3. Methodology

The data used in this study were collected through an online survey conducted on OJK Survey platform from May to September 2021. We surveyed 1371 MFIs from 33 provinces (Aceh province excluded) in Indonesia consisted of 1247 MFIs non-supervised and 124 MFIs supervised by OJK. This survey objective is to investigate the intention to adopt digital microfinance from all respondents and observe the respondents' satisfaction of post-adoption digital microfinance.

The survey is guided by the technology-organization-environment (TOE) framework proposed by Tornatzky and Fleischer (1990) that identifies a technological innovation: technological context, organizational context, and environment context. To enrich this survey, we used extended TOE model such as perceived benefits (Gibbs and Kreamer, 2004; Huy et al., 2012), and digital financial literacy (Vissing-Jorgensen, 2003; Guiso and Jappelli, 2005). Moreover, we also followed the information systems continuance model, also known as the expectation confirmation model, proposed by Bhattacherjee (2001). Thus, we designed the questionnaire consist of five sections (TOE framework, perceived benefits, digital financial literacy) to estimate intention to use and two sections (Overall company performance and financial capability) to estimate MFIs' post-adoption satisfaction that will lead to continuous technology use. We constructed the questionnaire on a Likert scale from 1 (strongly disagree) to 6 (Strongly agree).

A pilot survey was conducted to distribute the questionnaire to 50 MFIs in Indonesia, with purpose to get feedback to improve the survey and minimize any misunderstandings and biases (Hair, Black, Babin, & Anderson, 2013). Next step, we distributed the survey to 2000 MFIs and collected 1371 completed response. Non-probability technique is used to determine the sample units for 33 provinces.

We examined the collected data using Structural Equation Modeling with Partial Least Square (SEM-PLS), which is able to process large dataset and is not required a normality of data assumption (Aguirre-Ureta and Rönkkö, 2015; Hamdollah and Baghaei, 2016). Table 1 shows descriptive statistics of data.

Constructs	Item	Measuring items	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev
Technology C	ontext (TC)				
ICT	ITI1	MFI have sufficient IT Infrastructure to implement technology-based microfinance services	1371	4.27	1.40
Infrastructure	ITI2	MFI have core system that able to support technology-based microfinance services adoption.	1371	4.84	1.52
	ITI3	There is sufficient internet connectivity at MFIs location to support technology-based microfinance services adoption.	1371	4.45	1.35
	ITI4	There is sufficient access to electricity at MFIs location to support technology-based microfinance services adoption.	1371	4.66	1.27
ICT Expertise	ITE1	MFI are capable maintain technology-based microfinance services internally or with the help third party services.	1371	4.02	1.37
	ITE2	MFI employees have sufficient have skills and competencies to operate and provide technology-based microfinance services.	1371	4.09	1.33
	ITE3	MFI employees are experienced to provide technology-based microfinance services.	1371	3.90	1.39
Inovation	INO1	We are capable to utilize the latest technology-based microfinance services.	1371	3.43	1.46
	INO2	We become pioneer in adopting technology-based microfinance services for MFI industry.	1371	3.28	1.50
	INO3	We become source of reference and source of information for our stakeholders related to technology-based microfinance services.	1371	3.49	1.49
Organizationa	l Context (OC)				
Top Management	TOP1	Top management/owner considers adoption technology-based microfinance services is important.	1371	4.65	1.13
Support	TOP2	Top management/owner commit to allocate financial resources to adopt technology- based microfinance services.	1371	4.36	1.20
	ТОРЗ	Top management is committed to adopt technology-based microfinance services in our MFI.	1371	4.40	1.18
	RES1	MFI have self-funding to adopt technology-based microfinance services.	1371	3.91	1.41

 Table 1. Descriptive Statistics.

Constructs	Item	Measuring items	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev
Financial Resources			1371	3.83	1.45
	RES3	MFI have access to financial institutions such as financial and capital markets to adopt technology-based microfinance services	1371	3.38	1.51
Markets and Products	MARKETS1	MFI are capable to identify which group of customers interest in utilizing technology- based microfinance services.	1371	4.39	1.14
	MARKETS2	MFI aware any potential challenges to educate our customers using technology-based microfinance services.	1371	4.62	1.05
	MARKETS3	MFI know how to educate and encourage our customers to use technology-based microfinance services.	1371	4.26	1.18
	MARKETS4	MFI are capable to identify which products and services that can be transformed into technology-based microfinance services.	1371	4.30	1.13
	MARKETS5	MFI aware that not all products and services fit for digitalization, so we combine traditional and digital technology into business model.	1371	4.58	1.05
Business Model	BSM1	MFI choose technology-based microfinance services business model based on targeted customer financial needs.	1371	4.31	1.17
	BSM2	MFI is capable to identify which technology-based microfinance services business model that suitable to their business characteristics.	1371	4.16	1.24
	BSM3	MFI is capable to analyze advantages and disadvantages of technology-based microfinance services business models before deciding to adopt it.	1371	4.02	1.25
Environmenta	al Context (EC)				
Regulatory Environment	REG1	The existing regulations is sufficient to support technology-based microfinance services adoption.	1371	4.06	1.26
	REG2	Technology-based microfinance services implementation will be running smoothly when the existing regulation is sufficient.	1371	4.57	1.09
	REG3	Lack of regulatory framework in technology-based microfinance services expose risk MFIs and their customers.	1371	4.57	1.10
	STAKE1	Most business partners (banks, lenders, vendors, suppliers, customers) use technology- based microfinance services in their activities.	1371	4.57	1.26

Constructs	Item	Measuring items	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev
Pressure from	STAKE2	Most business partners (banks, lenders, vendors, suppliers, customers) have recommended using technology-based microfinance services.	1371	4.06	1.09
Stakeholders	STAKE3	Other MFI has adopted technology-based microfinance services thus pressuring our company to do the same.	1371	4.57	1.10
	STAKE4	Our relationship with existing customers will be deteriorated if we do not adopt technology-based microfinance services.	1371	4.57	1.42
	STAKE5	Our customers call us backward if we do not use technology-based microfinance services.	1371	3.63	1.47
Government Support	GOV1	Government support is important to encourage people to use technology-based microfinance services.	1371	4.74	1.07
	GOV2	Government commitment is needed to promote technology-based microfinance services for MFI.	1371	4.83	0.98
	GOV3	Government programs (e.g government loan for SMEs) are required to adopt technology- based microfinance services to support technology adoption by MFI.	1371	4.64	1.05
Digital Financ	cial Literacy (I	DFL)			
Financial literacy	LITFIN1	MFI are actively seeking information regarding the development of financial technology, economy, national, and international finance	1371	4.35	1.06
	LITFIN2	MFI are well informed about alternative financial sources using financial technology such as Peer to Peer (Lending/Payment), Securities Crowdfunding (SCF), Payment Gateway etc.	1371	4.10	1.27
	LITFIN3	MFI conduct training, discussion or sharing knowledge to improve technology-based microfinance services to our employees.	1371	4.05	1.27
Digital literacy	LITDIG1	MFI utilize basic data processing application, such as Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint in daily operations.	1371	4.77	1.39
	LITDIG2	MFI use online communication channels such as Whatsapp, email, instant messaging, and another Instant Messaging in daily operations.	1371	4.90	1.28
	LITDIG3	MFI employees are capable to operate the core system.	1371	3.96	1.62
	LITDIG4	MFIs aware that utilizing digital finance transactions might expose security risks, such as the spread of personal data (username, PIN, password) by an irresponsible party.	1371	4.74	1.34
	PRB1	MFIs can improve competitiveness by using technology-based microfinance services.	1371	4.62	1.09

Constructs	Item	Measuring items	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev
Perceived Benefits	PRB2	Adopting technology-based microfinance services can improve our service quality to existing customer.	1371	4.56	1.12
(PB)	PRB3	Adopting technology-based microfinance services can improve customers satisfaction.	1371	4.56	1.11
	PRB4	Adopting technology-based microfinance services can expand MFIs outreach to increase financial inclusion.	1371	4.63	1.04
	PRB5	Adopting technology-based microfinance services improve operational efficiency (cost, time, process)	1371	4.71	0.99
Intention to use (IU)	INT1	MFIs will adopt technology-based microfinance products and services in the future.	1371	4.73	1.00
	INT2	MFIs will increase the frequency of utilizing technology-based microfinance products and services in the future.	1371	4.71	0.99
Actual use (AU)	ACT1	How long have you been using technology-based microfinance products and services? (a) Not yet; (b) Less than 1 year; (c) 1-2 year; (d) 2-3 year; (e) 3-4 year; (f) More than 4 years	1371	2.41	1.81
	ACT2	MFIs encourage their customers to use technology-based microfinance services when doing transaction with	1371	4.30	1.21
	ACT3	MFIs connect digitally to sources of capital such as a bank, other MFIs, and venture capital.	1371	4.29	1.15
	ACT4	MFIs utilize digital marketing channeling such as Fintech, E-Commerce, Facebook Ads, Google Ads, Instagram Ads, and Twitter Sponsored.	1371	4.05	1.28
Overall Company	PERF1	Time needed to process financial transactions has become shorter since technology-based microfinance services implementation.	620	4.87	0.88
performance (OCP)	PERF2	MFIs is capable to perform banking transactions (e.g opening accounts, checking balance, transfer, payments, account mutations) through technology-based microfinance services.	620	4.65	1.05
	PERF3	Transaction costs have become more efficient since using digital technology-based microfinance products and services.	620	4.66	0.97
Financial	CAPA1	MFI has good planning or budgeting for business continuity.	620	4.82	0.85
capability	CAPA2	MFI can manage operating profit and save or reinvest a portion of operating profit.	620	4.56	1.06
(FC)	CAPA4	MFI plan, analyze, compare, review before take investment decision to develop technology-based microfinance services.	620	4.55	1.00

Constructs	Item	Measuring items	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev
Technology Continuous Adoption	TCA1	Considering current technology costs and benefits, MFI keeps using digital technology- based microfinance services.	620	4.77	0.90
Intention	TCA2	MFI will use digital technology-based microfinance services in the future.	620	4.82	0.90
(TCA)	TCA3	We actively seek any information on the development of digital technology-based microfinance service	620	4.77	0.88
	TCA4	MFI is interested in using microfinance services based on the latest digital technology.	620	4.85	0.89
Notes: All vari	ables have a	minimum value 1.00 and maximum value 6.0			

## 4. Results

The theoretical research model of this study was analyzed using Structural Equation Modeling with Partial Least Square (SEM-PLS), which is able to process large dataset and is not required a normality of data assumption (Aguirre-Urreta and Rönkkö, 2015; Hamdollah and Baghaei, 2016). We conduct a two-step approach in analyzing the model (Anderson and Gerbing, 1988, Mehmetoglu, 2012). First, the reliability and validity of the measurement model were performed. Second, we examined the structural model and tested the hypothesis.

#### 4.1 Measurement Model Evaluation

The measurement model allows us to examine whether the constructs are measured with satisfactory accuracy and the structural model assesses the explanatory power of the model. Composite reliability (CR), average variance extracted (AVE), item loading size significance, and discriminant validity are measurements that use the measurement model.

This study uses the factor loading, AVE, CR and Cronbach's alpha to assess convergent validity. The recommended factor loadings and AVE values to support convergent validity must be higher than 0.5 (Ryu, 2018), while the recommended CR and Cronbach's alpha values to support convergent validity are higher than 0.6 (Malholtra, 2007). Table 2 shows that the CR (> 0.70), Cronbach's Alpha ( $\alpha > 0.60$ ), FL (> 0.50), and AVE (> 0.50) for each construct are higher than the recommended level, thus indicating that all constructs support convergent validity. Thus, we perform the Fornell–Larcker criterion, which compares the value of the square root of the AVE (along the diagonal) to the correlations of the latent variables (Hair et al. 2016; Miltgen et al. 2013). Table 3 shows the result of validity and reliability test for selected items.

Constructs	Selected	Outer	Cronbach	Composite	
Constructs	Items	loading	α	reliability	AVE
	ITI1	0.838			
	ITI2	0.818			
	ITI3	0.757	0.935	0.944	0.631
	ITI4	0.728	0.955	0.944	0.031
Technology context (TC)	ITE1	0.867			
Technology context (TC)	ITE3	0.879			
	ITE4	0.870			
	INO1	0.728			
	INO2	0.703			
	INO3	0.730			
	TOP1	0.776			
	TOP2	0.816			
	TOP3	0.832	0.937	0.845	0.554
	RES1	0.606			
	RES2	0.659			
	RES3	0.527			
Organizational context	MARKETS1	0.753			
(OC)	MARKETS2	0.737			
	MARKETS3	0.820			
	MARKETS4	0.833			
	MARKETS5	0.601			
	BSM1	0.815			
	BSM2	0.773			
	BSM3	0.790			
	REG2	0.773			
Environmental context (EC)	STAKE1	0.683	0.862	0.891	0.510
	STAKE3	0.704			

Constructs	Selected	Outer	Cronbach	Composite	AVE
CONSTRUCTS	Items	loading	α	reliability	AVL
	STAKE4	0.565			
	STAKE5	0.592			
	GOV1	0.791			
	GOV2	0.799			
	GOV3	0.767			
Digital Einangial Literagy	LITFIN1	0.765			
Digital Financial Literacy	LITFIN2	0.764	0.874	0.902	0.569
(DFL)	LITFIN3	0.785			
	LITDIG1	0.795			
	LITDIG2	0.767			
	LITDIG3	0.723			
	LITDIG4	0.674			
	PRB1	0.902	0.946	0.958	0.822
Perceived Benefits (PB)	PRB2	0.931			
	PRB3	0.910			
	PRB4	0.922			
	PRB5	0.866			
Intention to Use (UI)	INT1	0.966	0.026	0.965	0.021
Intention to Use (IU)	INT2	0.964	0.926	0.965	0.931
	ACT2	0.913			
Actual use (AU)	ACT3	0.904	0.799	0.873	0.646
	ACT4	0.859			
	PERF1	0.857			
Overall company	PERF2	0.832	0.820	0.893	0.735
performance (OCP)	PERF3	0.883			
	CAPA1	0.850			
Financial capability (FC)	CAPA2	0.865	0.825	0.896	0.741
	CAPA3	0.867			

Constructs	Selected Outer (		Cronbach	Composite	AVE	
Constructs	Items	loading	α	reliability	ATL	
	TCA1	0.922				
Technology Continuous	TCA2	0.910	0.024	0.046	0.815	
Adoption Intention (TCA)	TCA3	0.881	0.924 0.946		0.815	
	TCA4	0.897				

We perform the Fornell–Larcker criterion to check discriminant validity by estimating the distinction of each construct from the others. Fornell-Larcker criterion compares the value of the square root of the AVE (along the diagonal) to the correlations of the latent variables (Hair et al. 2016; Miltgen et al. 2013). Table 4 present correlation matric and the aquare root of AVE. we find that our constructs are different for each variable. All values on the diagonal are higher than the values below and to the left, except for EC-IU, EC-OC, EC-PB, and OC-TC. Nonetheless, with threshold 0.85 the difference is insignificant (Hamid et al. 2017).

	AU	DFL	EC	FC	IU	OC	OCP	PB	TCA	TC
AU	0.804									
DFL	0.694	0.754								
EC	0.674	0.732	0.714							
FC	0.356	0.435	0.419	0.861						
IU	0.631	0.653	0.717	0.409	0.965					
OC	0.755	0.767	0.791	0.435	0.663	0.745				
OCP	0.349	0.373	0.386	0.700	0.395	0.381	0.857			
PB	0.679	0.693	0.780	0.366	0.724	0.741	0.367	0.906		
TCA	0.386	0.411	0.451	0.767	0.456	0.431	0.772	0.427	0.903	
TC	0.693	0.728	0.622	0.385	0.512	0.788	0.344	0.599	0.354	0.794

Table 3. Correlation matrix and the square root of AVE: Fornell–Larcker criterion

#### 4.2 Structural Model and Hypothesis Testing

This study follows Hair et al. (2014) to examine the structural model (path relationship),  $R^2$  value, t-values by employing bootstrapping procedure with 5.000 resampling, beta coefficient, the effect size (f<sup>2</sup>), and the predictive relevance (Q2). The path coefficients results and R2 are shown in Table 5 and Table 6 respectively.

We examine the hypothesis using path analysis, the significant determine by t-stat (t=1.96). All hypotheses are significant and show positive relationships except for technological context. To evaluate whether all dependent variables are good predictor, we observe further the change in the  $R^2$  value to obtain the effect size ( $f^2$ ) which can be seen in table 5. Usually, the specific exogenous construct of a model is omitted to evaluate the changes in  $R^2$ . However,  $R^2$  value will significantly change when the omitted construct has an essential impact on the endogenous construct. Cohen (1988) classify the effect size as small, medium, large with threshold 0.02, 0.15, and 0.35 respectively. From table 5, although all relationships are significant for 1% and 5%, not all of them are good predictor since the effect size are vary.

Our result shows that large effect size find in relationship between MFIs actual use and overall company performance (0.139), perceived benefit and intention to use (0.104), overall company performance and financial capability (0.676), intention to use and actual use (0.662) and overall company performance and technology continuous adoption intention (0.359). Meanwhile medium effect size is seen in relationships between environment context and intention to use (0.05), financial capability and technology continuous adoption (0.333) and intention digital financial literacy and intention to use (0.031). The rest are relationship between technological context and intention to use (0.009), organizational context and intention to use (0.008), and actual Use and financial capability (0.004) classify as small effect size and cannot be considered as good predictor.

Table 6 presents the result from blindfolding procedure to obtain the predictive relevance of the model. All dependent variables (actual use, financial capability, intention to use, firm performance, and sustainable use of financial technology) have  $Q^2$  values more than 0, indicating that our model has good predictive relevance (Hair et al., 2014).

Hypothesized path	β	T-stat	ρ value	$f^2$
H1. Technological Context $\rightarrow$ Intention to Use	-0.096***	2.709	0.007	0.009
H2. Organizational Context $\rightarrow$ Intention to Use	0.140**	2.221	0.026	0.008
H3. Environment Context $\rightarrow$ Intention to Use	0.273***	5.593	0.000	0.050
H4. Digital Financial Literacy $\rightarrow$ Intention to Use	0.193***	4.813	0.000	0.031
H5. Perceived Benefit $\rightarrow$ Intention to Use	0.349***	7.178	0.000	0.104
H6. Intention to Use $\rightarrow$ Actual Use	0.631***	31.302	0.000	0.662
H7a. Actual Use → Financial Capability	0.057**	2.098	0.036	0.004
H7b. Actual Use $\rightarrow$ Overall Company Performance	0.349***	16.561	0.000	0.139

**Table 4.** The Direct Relationships of the Structural Model

H8a. Overall Company Performance → Financial Capability	0.631***	18.961	0.000	0.676
H8b. Overall Company Performance → Technology Continuous Adoption Intention	0.461***	10.019	0.000	0.359
H9 Financial Capability $\rightarrow$ Technology Continuous Adoption Intention	0.445***	9.545	0.000	0.333

Dependent Variables	<b>R</b> <sup>2</sup>	R <sup>2</sup> Adjusted	$Q^2$
Actual Use	0.398	0.398	0.255
Financial Capability	0.513	0.511	0.373
Intention to Use	0.602	0.600	0.563
Performance	0.122	0.121	0.088
Technology Continuous	0.697	0.697	0.563

**Table 5**.  $R^2$  and  $Q^2$  values

# 5. Discussion

This paper research has empirically validated the proposed research model. All the construct has been tested for convergent validity and reliability. Further all hypotheses regarding the relationship between constructs are developed and tested by SEM-PLS. We found that all hypotheses are significant. Perceived benefit and environment context are the strongest determinants for MFIs intention to use, while overall company performance is the strongest determinants for technology continuous adoption intention.

# 5.1 Intention To Use

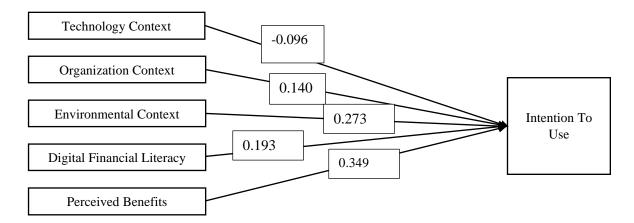


Figure 2 Intention to Use Path Analysis

From the research findings, in term of technological context, unexpectedly, the findings indicate is found to be significantly negative influence intention MFIs to adopt technology-based microfinance services. However, the technological context was small predictor (f2=0.007) on the intention MFIs to adopt technology-based microfinance services. Several reasons might occur, such as lack of ICT expertise and ICT Infrastructure. This study in line with Yousif et al. (2013) concluded that MFIs often lack the skill sets or understanding needed to successfully upgrade their ICT/MIS to integrate MFS. Moreover, MFIs in developing economies, face significant challenges in processing and communicating with the traditional and manual operation methods, yet reluctant to incorporate ICT resources to improve operation efficiency (Estapé-Dubreuil, 2015). MFI owners should spend on ICT resources for their business operation (Diniz et al., 2014). Mwela (2014) found that MFIs confront many difficulties in playing out its obligation with respect of ICT use which are not sufficient facilities, bad perception of partners, low utilization of ICT in MFIs, high operation expenses to offer financial services to needy individuals and SME's.

Our H2 investigated the impact of organizational context (TC) on intention to use (IU) was supported. Organizational context in this research that consists top management support, financial resources, markets and products and business model. Our finding supported by Ammar & Ahmed (2016), revealed that top management support, organization financial resources, market and products and business model were found to have influence on m-banking implementation m-banking by microfinance providers institutions (MFPs) in Kenya. This finding also in supported with (Zhu and Kraemer, 2005; Kuan and Chau's, 2001) studies support organization financial resources as an influencing factor in the adoption of E-channels.

The H3 which is relationship between environmental context (EC) and intention to use (IU) was supported. Environmental context in this research that consists regulatory environment, pressure from stakeholders and government support. Within in the TOE framework, environmental context appears to be the strongest factor. The hypothesis findings provide evidence that the pressure from consumers, competitors, or partners, drive them to move toward digital financial technology adoption (Wu et al., 2003; Sila, 2013; Ghobakhloo, 2011; Kurnia, 2015). Additionally, subsidies or grant form government, and various choices of digital financial technology providers with ease and low-cost also encourage them to adopt. In line with the result, Chong et al. (2010) found that government support significant determinants to predict the intention to use internet

banking. Enabling Regulatory Environment factor was supported by Yousif et al. (2013), Khattab et al. (2012); Ismail and Osman (2012), Ayana (2014) and Zhu and Kraemer's (2005) studies.

The result for H4 was also supported, digital financial literacy (DFL) is found to be positive and significantly influence intention to use digital financial technology. Information literacy is an important factor in new IT adoption and increased IT usage (Yu et al., 2017), study by Wawire et al., (2017). Our finding in line with Jang et al., (2021) that assume information literacy has a direct effect on the intention to use digital technologies for learning in Korea and Finland, furthermore perceived financial literacy is considered to have direct impact on intention to use mobile financial services (Huhmann & McQuitty, 2009; Ramos, 2017).

Consistent with previous research (Iacovou et al, 1995; Looi, 2005; Kurnia, 2015) our finding on the relationship between perceived benefit (PB) and intention to use (IU) was positive and significant. Organizations are likely to perceive the benefits of digital financial technology if it is potential to improve their business process, able to manage the risks and compatible with their current business needs, process, and culture.

# 5.2 Actual Use

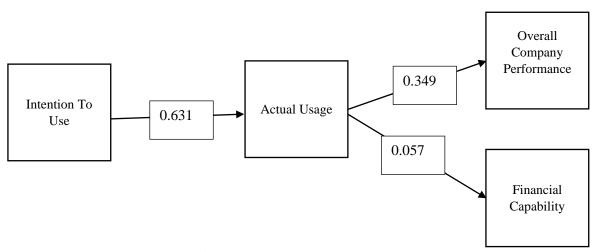


Figure 3. Actual Usage Path Analysis

Intention to use (IU) was found to be positive and significant influence the actual use (AU) of digital financial technology (H6). Adopt technology-based microfinance services adopt technology-based microfinance services The result indicates that the intention to utilize financial technology on daily operation significantly influences the actual use of digital tools in MFIs. This

is in line with innumerable studies based on TAM (Venkatesh et al. 2003). Further, our result also supports the relationship between actual use and financial capability (H7a) and actual use to overall company performance (H7b). It indicates that the frequency of usage behavior in using digital financial technology will impact the MFIs financial capability and firm performance. Consistent with Yeo & Fisher (2017), digital financial services able to increase the possibility of saving and the amount of cash saved it is convenient to use the mobile financial application. In addition, the features offered by digital financial services such as peer to peer landing can help its users in crisis times through easy access to liquidity (Johnson, 2016). Therefore, it will lead to better company performance.

## 5.3 Technology Continuous Adoption Intention

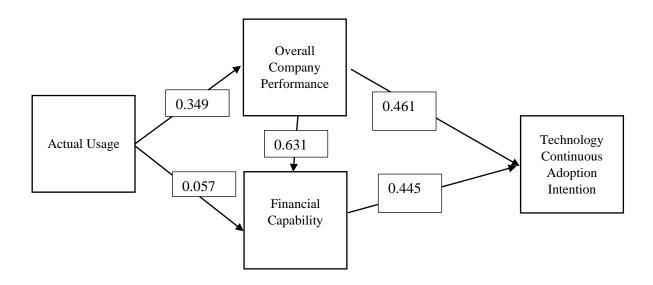


Figure 4. Technology Continuous Adoption Intention Path Analysis

From company performance context, financial capability (FC) and technology continuous adoption intention (TCA) is positively influenced by overall company performance (CP), supporting H8a and H8b. Digital financial technology may help its users to managing income, make better risk management and cope with unforeseen emergencies such as business failure, there it is believed that the usage of digital financial technology can maintain or even resulting better company performance. Then H9, which is relationship between financial capability (FC) and technology continuous adoption intention (TCA) was also supported. This finding in line with

(Bhattacherjee, 2001) that assumes satisfaction with the usage of digital financial technology is proven to be main driver of technology continuance intention to adopt, where the satisfaction can be measured by increase in financial capability.

## 6. Conclusion and implication

We survey 1371 MFIs to estimate empirical model by identifies determinants affecting MFIs behavior intention to adopt technology-based microfinance services. Going deeper, we examine post adoption behavior of MFI regarding the intention to continue using technology adoption. Our findings show the followings: (1) perceived benefit that represent MFIs expectation benefit from technology adoption is strongest predictor for intention to use followed by environmental context, (2) government support on environmental context are the dominant factor loadings. (3) technological context is empirically significant with negative effect to intention to use because technological readiness of MFIs relatively poor, (4) better overall firm performance and financial capability as MFIs satisfaction indicator are drivers for firm's intention to continue using digital financial technology.

As a result, it is essential for government to support the development of digital ecosystem for MFIs. Moreover, government support is also needed for technical assistance and IT Infrastructure support to encourage MFIs adopt technology-based microfinance services. Government support on digital ecosystem development will lead to shifting most transaction of microfinance in digital platform. Consequently, it will lead to higher satisfaction for MFIs (expectation benefit of MFI is realized) then eventually increase MFI intention to continue adopt the technology.

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