DIGITALISATION OF FINANCIAL PRODUCTS AND SERVICES IN MOZAMBIQUE

CONTEXT
In Mozambique, the government is committed to promoting and enabling digital financial services to expand and develop for the vulnerable populations. With a population of over 30 million inhabitants, there are ample opportunities as well as challenges to overcome. To overcome the challenges, which include amongst others, accessing products and services, financial services providers are developing new innovative and flexible ways to serve their customers using digital solutions.

CURRENT STATUS OF THE INVESTEES
Microbanco Confiança SA (McBc) is a microfinance bank duly licensed by the Bank of Mozambique in June 2017. The bank’s model has demonstrated that successful rural microfinance can work sustainably. McBc’s target clients are smallholder farmers, micro-entrepreneurs and salaried workers, and operates through a network of 12 branches throughout the country. 60% of the microfinance bank’s clients are women, including small and micro-entrepreneurs, smallholder farmers and poultry producers.

OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT
The main objective of the project is to develop innovative banking products and services through digital technologies to enhance customer experience and promote financial inclusion for smallholder farmers, especially women, and micro-entrepreneurs in rural and peri-urban areas of Maputo Province and Maputo City.

The expected outcomes are:
- Increased outreach through the opening of digital accounts, the provision of financial literacy and improved access to agricultural loans.
- Increased use of digital platforms such as SMS banking and mobile money.
- Increased savings leading to cheaper capital to help increase lending to rural households and smallholder farmers.
- Reduced transaction costs for 6,800 loan clients.