Zimbabwe
March 2026

MicroLoan Foundation Zimbabwe

MicroLoan Foundation Zimbabwe (MicroLoan Zimbabwe) was launched in April 2017 and operates in the north-east of the country, with Harare serving as its Head Office. The organisation provides inclusive financial services to women in rural communities, expanding access to finance, business support and financial literacy in underserved areas where demand remains high. During Q1 2026, Zimbabwe's improving economic outlook, supported by easing inflation, continued use of the US dollar alongside the Zimbabwe Gold (ZiG) currency until 2030 and projected GDP growth of 5%, created a more favourable operating environment. Against this backdrop, MicroLoan Zimbabwe expanded its outreach to 3,851 active clients, grew its outstanding loan portfolio to USD489,198, improved PAR30 to 5.4%, and strengthened its operational sustainability, reflecting continued progress in delivering responsible financial services.

Leadership Team

Samson Songore
Chief Executive Officer Zimbabwe

Samson Songore, CEO of MicroLoan Foundation Zimbabwe, brings 20+ years' experience in microfinance leadership across Southern Africa. Formerly with Futuro Micro Banco and SEF, he excels in operations, training, and financial inclusion. He holds banking and microfinance qualifications and is dedicated to empowering women entrepreneurs through sustainable services.

Mateo Zanetic
Regional Director, Africa

As Regional Director, Africa, Mateo is responsible for the overall operational development, performance and strategic growth of MicroLoan Foundation's programmes across Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe and South Africa. He works closely with each country's senior management team to strengthen operational performance, drive sustainable growth and ensure the delivery of high-quality, client-centred financial services. Mateo also leads the Group's Social Performance Management function, embedding responsible finance and client protection across all operations.

As a member of the Boards of MicroLoan Foundation's subsidiaries in Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe and South Africa, he provides strategic oversight to ensure the organisation operates effectively, efficiently and in line with its mission.

Mateo holds a degree in Management Accounting and Corporate Finance from Wits University.

Ruvimbo Makoni
Finance Manager, MicroLoan Zimbabwe

Ruvimbo leads financial strategy, compliance, andoperations of MicroLoan Zimbabwe. With 15+ years' experience in Zimbabwe and the UK, she's an FCCA Fellow known for strengthening finance functions, mentoring teams, and driving efficiency. She also contributed to public finance standards through the ACCA Zimbabwe Public Sector Sub-committee.

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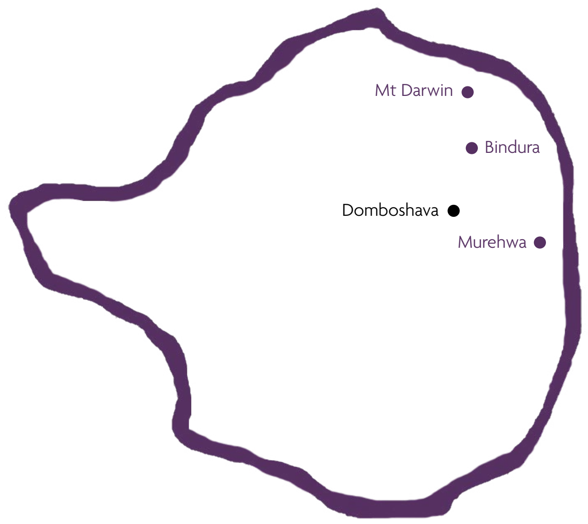

Social Performance Management

Social Performance Management (SPM) ensures MicroLoan Foundation stay true to its mission of empowering financially excluded women to lift themselves out of poverty. It translates social goals into practice through ongoing measurement and improvement. Recognised by TrueLift as a best-practice model, our SPM approach in Zimbabwe uses several tools: the Musoni MIS system for real-time data tracking; Outcomes Questionnaires to monitor client well-being; and Client Surveys for deeper insights into social impact and service delivery. Together, these tools enable us to evaluate progress and adapt our support to meet clients' evolving needs.

Key Products and Services

Four month business loan

This product is offered to women to help them start income generating businesses. It has a 7% interest rate per month and is repayable over 8 fortnights. No collateral is required.

Customer Hotline

This is to provide customers with ongoing support on any operational issues. It is monitored monthly to analyse any common issues coming from clients.

Savings

In addition to loans, MicroLoan facilitates savings among clients. Since we are a non-deposit taking microfinance organisation, we facilitate savings for clients through accounts with third parties such as traditional banks or mobile money providers.. Clients can withdraw savings at any time required with consent from the group.

Financial literacy and business training

We offer pre and post loan disbursement training modules. They aim to help clients understand the purpose of the loans and ensure they are equipped to run and manage their businesses. Training modules include: market research, profit analysis, budgeting and the importance of savings.

MicroLoan Zimbabwe News

Macroeconomic situation

Zimbabwe's economy continued to grow in Q1 2026, supported by economic reforms and improving price stability. The Treasury projects 5% GDP growth in 2026, driven by recovery in agriculture, mining, manufacturing and wholesale and retail trade. Inflation continued its sharp decline, with the IMF reporting 4.1% inflation in January 2026, the country's first single-digit inflation rate in almost three decades. In February, Zimbabwe and the IMF reached a staff-level agreement on a 10-month Staff-Monitored Programme, marking an important step towards strengthening macroeconomic stability, supporting economic reforms and advancing progress towards arrears clearance.

Reaching More Underserved Women – New Branch in Mount Darwin

MicroLoan Zimbabwe extended operations into Mutoko while strengthening its presence in Mount Darwin. Both districts are predominantly rural, with livelihoods heavily dependent on agriculture and small businesses, creating strong demand for inclusive financial services. The expansion has enabled more women entrepreneurs to access loans, business support and financial literacy training, helping them strengthen household incomes and build resilience. Continued investment in new operational areas reflects MicroLoan Zimbabwe's commitment to reaching financially excluded communities and broadening access to responsible financial services where they are needed most.

Operational highlights

Number of active clients
3,851

Number of branches
3

PAR30 (%)
5.4%

Average loan size (USD)
$ 191

Loan book (USD)
$ 489,198

Operational self-sufficiency (%)
95%

No. of clients per Loan & Training Officer
261

Source: MicroLoan Performance Report. Exchange rate based on Oanda at March 2026

Key Partnerships

Whole Planet Foundation, the charitable foundation of Whole Foods Market, continues to be an important partner in supporting MicroLoan Zimbabwe's mission to expand financial inclusion. Its USD350,000 grant, delivered between 2023 and 2025, enabled the organisation to grow its loan portfolio and reach more financially excluded women in rural communities. The investment has strengthened MicroLoan Zimbabwe's capacity to deliver sustainable, responsible financial services and create lasting economic opportunities.

The Paul Foundation, a grant-making trust and social impact investor, has been a key partner in supporting the establishment and growth of MicroLoan Zimbabwe since 2016. Its funding has strengthened operations, expanded the loan portfolio and supported the organisation's recovery during challenging periods. The Foundation's latest grant concluded in January 2026, marking the completion of a significant phase of support that has helped build a stronger and more resilient institution serving financially excluded women in rural Zimbabwe.

If you would like any further detail about the information included in this document please contact MicroLoan Foundation's Group Chief Executive Officer, Medha Wilson.

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