INTRODUCTION TO FINANCIAL ANALYSIS









United States Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture

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FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

- What is financial analysis?
- What do we need to know?
- How do we do the analysis?



WHAT IS FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

A process to set standards or norms

A means of takin stock of your business

A means of comparing performance to norms

A process for diagnosing problems



WHERE DO WE GET FINANCIAL INFORMATION?

Based on data from financial statements

- Balance Sheet
- Income Statement (Profit and Loss Statement)
- Cash Flow Statement (Source and Uses of Funds)

Internal Monthly Statements and Annual Audits



WHAT DO WE NEED TO KNOW?

- Liquidity
- Solvency
- Profitability
- Efficiency



HOW DO WE DO THE ANALYSIS?

- Combine data from balance sheet and income statements
- · Calculate ratios to account for size differences



WHAT IS LIQUIDITY?

A measure of he firm's ability to meet short-term liabilities with short-term assets Key indicators of liquidity include working capital and the current ratio

- Working Capital = Current Assets Current Liabilities
- Current Ratio = Current Assets / Current Liabilities



WHAT IS SOLVENCY?

It Measures the firm's ability to meet long-term liabilities, preferably with long-term assets

Measures of long-term survivability

Key indicators include the debts to asset and debt to equity ratios

- Debt to Asset Ratio = Total Liabilities / Total Assets
- Debt to Equity Ratio = Total Liabilities / Net Worth



WHAT IS PROFITABILITY?

Measures the ability of the firm to generate profits (savings)

Key indicators of profitability include Return on Assets (ROA) and Return on Equity (ROE)

- ROA = (Net Income + Interest Paid) / Total Assets
- ROE = Net Income / Net Worth (Total Equity)



WHAT IS EFFICIENCY?

Measures how well we are using our resources top produce results

Key indicators depend upon the business being considered

Some common measures include:

- Sales / Total Salaries
- Sales / Net Fixed Assets
- Sales / Inventory
- Equity Revolved / Local Net Worth
- Patronage Refunds/ Gross Margin



EXERCISE #1: EFFICIENCY MAVENS

Based upon the objectives of your cooperative, what are some useful measures of efficiency?

Use a Three-Way Rotation

Can you do it in 20 minutes?!!



EXERCISE #2: WALKING THE WALK

Please calculate some liquidity solvency, profitability and efficiency measures for "Wilderness Co-op" for the three years shown.

Can you do it in 20 minutes?!!



GOING BEYOND THE NUMBERS

The values for liquidity, solvency and profitability are a staring point, not a destination

The best directions use this "information" to extract "knowledge"

Knowledge comes from understanding why the liquidity, solvency and profitability values are what they are



EXERCISE #3: "TELL ME A STORY"

Consider the data from Wilderness Co-op and your financial calculations

Come up with a story that could explain the observed trends, or

Come up with a list of questions to pose to management to find out what is going on.

Can you do it in 15 minutes ?!!



CONCLUSIONS



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