



# PRODUCTIVE INCLUSION MEASURES IN THE SAHEL

An integrated approach to promote the economic activities of poor and vulnerable households

**Reduce poverty** by delivering packages of services that tackle the multiple constraints faced by poor households, enhance income-generation capacities, raise earnings and improve welfare.

**Improve job prospects for the poor** by raising earnings and productivity of self-employed individuals, who constitute over 80% of the working population in low-income countries.

**Promote women's economic empowerment** by creating business opportunities while boosting aspirations and supportive social dynamics.

**Foster resilience to climatic shocks** by helping households diversify livelihoods, improve food security and avoid adverse coping strategies.

**Spur recovery after a major crisis** and contribute to recovery efforts as a stimulus package (or "big push") to revive economic activities of vulnerable populations.

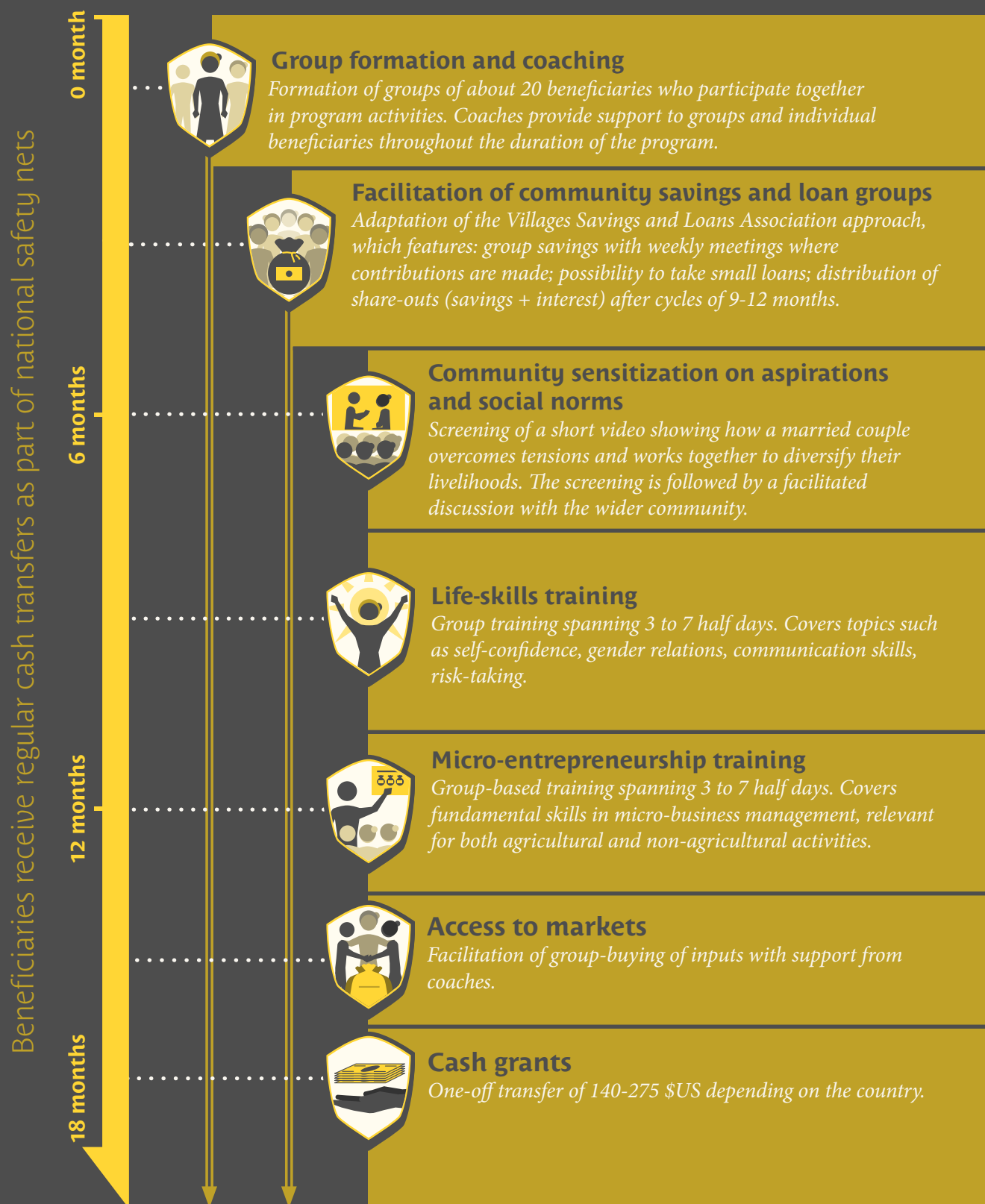
**FOUR COUNTRIES IN THE SAHEL SUCCESSFULLY DELIVERED PRODUCTIVE INCLUSION MEASURES THROUGH ADAPTIVE SAFETY NET SYSTEMS**



More than  
**50,000**  
households have received  
the productive inclusion  
measures.

**Burkina Faso  
Mauritania  
Niger  
Senegal**

# THE PRODUCTIVE INCLUSION MEASURES



This is a stylized representation of the program; the exact sequencing varied across countries. Implementation took between 12 and 18 months in total.

# SUCCESSFUL DELIVERY

Quality delivery is possible through national, government-led safety net programs.

**93%** attendance rate for 3-4 savings groups meetings/months.

**90-98%** attendance at group coaching meetings.

**91-95%** attendance at trainings.

**\$310** is the average cost of the productive measures per beneficiary across the four countries, including management and supervision costs.

Differences across countries show that the delivery of the productive measures through national systems and large-scale programs contributed to keep costs low.

More than 50,000 safety net beneficiaries participated in the productive inclusion measures across four countries.

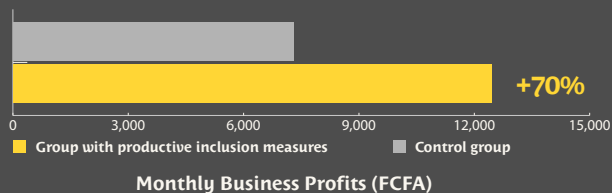
Women make up more than **90%** of all beneficiaries.

## RESULTS



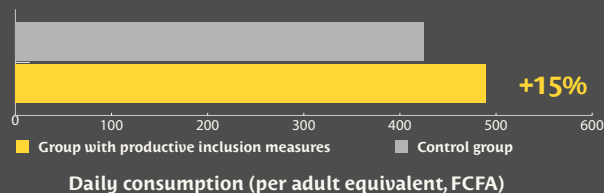
### Economic activities and diversification

The productive measures helped people boost investments and diversify off-farm income-generating activities, which led to strong increases in revenues and profits.



### Well-being and food security

Beneficiaries displayed higher levels of total consumption and food security. They also experienced improved mental health and a greater sense of social worth.



### Social and financial inclusion

The program created a safe space, and fostered group dynamics and peer learning. Beneficiaries experienced stronger social and financial support, higher trust and greater capacity for collective action.



### Women's empowerment

Women reported greater aspirations and decision-making power over their own resources. The program improved gender attitudes and perceptions of women engaging in economic activities.

These results are based on impact evaluation findings from Niger. Final results will be based on a rigorous randomized controlled trial including a sample of more than 15,000 households across the four countries.



# DELIVERY THROUGH NATIONAL SYSTEMS

## Social protection systems facilitate the delivery of productive inclusion interventions.

National agencies harmonize policies. Decentralized staff coordinate and support implementation.

## Delivering productive inclusion programs through national systems increases cost-efficiency compared to stand-alone programs.

Productive inclusion interventions also further boost impacts of social assistance.

## Safety nets are expanding and reaching a large population.

This creates opportunities to scale-up productive inclusion programs as well.

# IMPLEMENTATION MODALITIES

## The delivery models can be adapted,

depending on the structure of the safety net program and its capacity at local level.

## Safety net agencies can partner with various actors to effectively deliver programs,

including experienced local NGOs, private firms specialized in delivering training, and community agents responsive to local populations' needs.

## Two lighter-touch variations of the program were also tested.

One variation prioritized psycho-social support. The second variation prioritized capital support.



The Sahel Adaptive Social Protection program is managed by the World Bank and supported by DFID, AFD and BMZ.



The productive inclusion measures were implemented as part of the following programs: Burkin-Naong-Sa Ya (Burkina Faso), Tekavoul (Mauritania), the Projets Filets Sociaux Adaptifs (Niger), the Programme National de Bourses de Sécurité Familiale (Senegal).



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Cover photo: Program beneficiaries in Kargui Bangou, Dosso region, Niger. Photo credit: Thomas Bossuroy