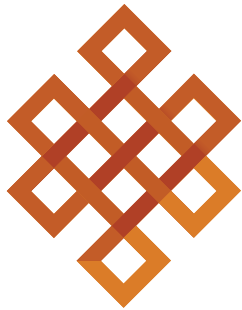


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# SAHEL ADAPTIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION PROGRAM

**ANNUAL REPORT | Fiscal Year 2024**



## ANNUAL REPORT | Fiscal Year 2024

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## SASPP COUNTRIES





# ABBREVIATIONS

## **ACLED**

Armed Conflict Location and Event Data

## **AFD**

Agence Française de Développement (French Development Agency)

## **ARC**

African Risk Capacity

## **ASP**

Adaptive Social Protection

## **BMZ**

German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

## **CDP**

Centre for Disaster Protection

## **CGAP**

Consultative Group to Assist the Poor

## **CIRAD**

Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement

## **CNSA**

Conseil National de Sécurité Alimentaire (National Food Security Council)

## **CNSANPS**

Conseil National de Sécurité Alimentaire, de Nutrition et de Protection Sociale (National Food Security, Nutrition and Social Protection Council)

## **CONASUR**

Burkinabe Council for Emergency Relief and Rehabilitation

## **DCAN**

Permanent Shock Response Framework—Mauritania

## **DGPSN**

Délégation Générale à La Protection Sociale et à La Solidarité Nationale—Senegal

## **DIZA**

Developpement Inclusif des Zones d'Accueil—Chad

## **DNPSES**

Direction Nationale de la Protection Sociale et de l'Economie Solidaire—Mali

## **DRF**

Disaster Risk Financing

## **ECHO**

European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office

## **ECOWAS**

Economic Community of West African State

## **EWS**

Early Warning Systems

## **EHCVM**

Enquête Harmonisée sur les Conditions de Vie des Ménages (Harmonized household surveys of household living conditions)

## **EU**

European Union

## **FAO**

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

## **FASA**

Fonds d'Appui à la Sécurité Alimentaire

## **FCDO**

United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

## **FCI**

Finance, Competitiveness, and Innovation

## **FCV**

Fragility, Conflict, and Violence

## **FIFI**

Food Insecurity Predictive Model—Mauritania

## **FNRCAN**

National Fund for Response to Food and Nutrition Crises—Mauritania

## **FNS**

Fonds National de Solidarité (National Solidarity Fund)—Burkina Faso

## **FSN**

Fonds de Solidarité Nationale (National Solidarity Fund)—Senegal

## **FY**

Fiscal Year

## **GBV**

Gender-Based Violence

## **GIZ**

German Agency for International Cooperation

## **GP**

Global Practice

## **GRM**

Grievance Redress Mechanism

## **HNP**

Health, nutrition, and population sector

## **IDA**

International Development Association

## **IDP**

Internally Displaced Person

## **IMF**

International Monetary Fund

## **KFW**

Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau

## **LMIC**

Low- and Middle- Income Countries

## **MDTF**

Multi-Donor Trust Fund

## **MIS**

Management Information System

## **MoU**

Memorandum of Understanding

## **NGO**

Non-governmental Organization

## **NSPS**

National Social Protection Strategy

## **ODI**

Overseas Development Institute

## **OCHA**

Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

## **PAFS**

Projet d'Appui aux Filets Sociaux—Senegal

## **PAMPV**

Programme d'Appui à l'Autonomisation des Ménages Pauvres et Vulnérables

## **PAPSA**

Projet d'Appui à la Protection Sociale Adaptative—Senegal

## **PARCA**

Refugees and Host Communities Support Project

## **PDZAM**

Mali Dry Land Development Project

## **PNBSF**

Programme National de Bourses de Sécurité Familiale—Senegal

## **RNU**

Registre National Unique (Single National Registry)—Senegal

## **RSU**

Registre Social Unifié (Unified Social Registry)—Chad, Mali, Niger

## **SASPP**

Sahel Adaptive Social Protection Program

## **SPJ**

Social protection and jobs

## **SWIFT**

Survey of Well-being via Instant and Frequent Tracking

## **UEMOA**

West African Economic and Monetary Union

## **UNHCR**

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

## **UNICEF**

United Nations Children's Fund

## **WFP**

World Food Programme

*All dollar amounts are in US dollars and rounded to the nearest full dollar, unless otherwise indicated.*



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Sahel region continues to face high levels of poverty and vulnerability, and recurrent and protracted crises make it one of the most fragile regions in the world. During the past World Bank fiscal year (FY24, from July 2023 to June 2024), climate shocks, increased violence, and fragility overlapped, further aggravating food insecurity and increasing the number of forcibly displaced people across the region. Despite the complex context, the Sahel countries have demonstrated willingness to invest in adaptive social protection (ASP) systems to improve their capacity to reduce poverty and promote resilience to shocks.

The Sahel Adaptive Social Protection Program (SASPP) supports six Sahelian countries—Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, and Senegal—in building ASP systems to help vulnerable households adapt to the impacts of climate change and other shocks. This multi donor trust fund (MDTF) is funded by contributions from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the Agence française de Développement (AFD), the Danish Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the United Kingdom Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). The SASPP supports country programs with activities implemented by government agencies or directly executed by the World Bank. Most of the SASPP’s investments are embedded in larger investment projects financed by the International Development Association (IDA). The program also finances technical assistance at the country level and a regional analytical work and knowledge exchange agenda to complement and reinforce country focused activities.

This annual report highlights the progress and results achieved by the SASPP during FY24. It provides an overview of activities in the six SASPP countries along the four building blocks for ASP: (1) programs and delivery systems, (2) data and information, (3) financing, and (4) institutional

arrangements and partnerships. It also provides an overview of activities across the SASPP’s regional thematic pillars. The regional agenda aims to promote regional analytical work and expand knowledge generation on major issues to strengthen climate adaptive social protection systems in the Sahel. It is organized along five thematic pillars: (1) poverty, vulnerability, and resilience; (2) climate shock responsive delivery systems; (3) productive inclusion and women’s empowerment; (4) fragility and forced displacement; and (5) ASP and human capital.

The SASPP results framework showcases the program’s achievements in FY24 despite the complex environment in the region, emphasizing progress across the four building blocks, aligning closely with the initial targets set at the beginning of the program. The program’s support for the delivery of shock response programs surpassed the initial targets, directly supporting over 1,212,000 individuals, in addition to the support provided by International Development Association (IDA) funds. SASPP also increased its support for the expansion of productive inclusion programs’ coverage, directly benefiting over 103,000 individuals, 75 percent of them women.



# 1 CONTEXT AND CHALLENGES: CRISIS AND FRAGILITY

**Countries in the Sahel region remain among the poorest in the world.** The average national poverty rate across Burkina Faso, Chad, Niger, Mali, Mauritania, and Senegal is 40 percent, with 28 percent of the population living on less than US\$2.15 a day on average. Countries in the region figure among the 35 countries with the lowest Human Capital Index scores globally, with three of them among the bottom four. Children born in the region in 2020 were expected to achieve only between 30 and 42 percent of their potential productivity by their 18th birthday, compared to what they could achieve with a complete education and full health. These challenges are compounded by ongoing conflict, climate change, fragility, and global economic pressures.

**The Sahel continues to be one of the regions most impacted by climate change.** While contributing less than 0.7 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions, the six Sahel countries rank among the 36 countries most vulnerable and yet least prepared to face the threats of climate change. Predictions indicate that the Sahel will face increasing temperatures and more extreme weather events at a greater rate than the rest of the world. Temperatures in the Sahel are rising 1.5 times faster than the global average, leading to extreme temperatures as well as more erratic and intense rainfall. The Sahel experienced extreme heat in spring 2024, with temperatures reaching up to 48 degrees Celsius in parts of the region.

**Insecurity and fragility continue to deteriorate in the region, particularly in the tri border area of Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger.** The Sahel accounted for almost half of all deaths from terrorism globally. Niger experienced a coup d'état in July 2023, the fifth in the region since 2020. Increased conflict and insecurity have resulted in continuously high forced displacement. As of May 2024, there were over 1.3 million refugees across the region (over 1.2 million in Chad) and around 3 million internally displaced people (IDPs) in Burkina Faso (over 2 million), Chad, Mali, and Niger (over 400,000).

**The confluence of climate change and conflict is likely to make 2024 the worst lean season in the last decade.** During the forthcoming lean season (June to August 2024), an estimated 12 million people will face acute levels of food insecurity, surpassing the previous 10 year high experienced in 2023. Conflict areas in northern Mali are particularly affected.

**Adaptive social protection (ASP) plays a pivotal role in mitigating the effects of compounded crises, addressing the unequal impacts of climate change, and strengthening resilience against future shocks.** There is a growing body of global evidence that ASP is a critical tool for helping the poorest and most climate vulnerable households adapt their livelihoods to the impacts of climate change, providing



timely support to those affected by climate shocks, and building households' resilience and ability to cope with future shocks. In the Sahel, countries have been developing and leveraging social protection systems for about a decade to address chronic poverty, seasonal food insecurity, and the repercussions of the COVID 19 pandemic. Programs in the region demonstrated strong impacts on the welfare of beneficiaries, their productivity, livelihoods, and resilience to climate shocks as timely responses prevent households from resorting to depletive coping strategies. Beyond beneficiaries, ASP contributes to societies and economies by increasing social cohesion; promoting healthier, more educated, and more productive future generations; and boosting local economies through local multiplier effects. Recent shocks have demonstrated that having strong ASP systems and instruments—such as safety net programs, social registries, and payment systems—in place before a shock or crisis materializes is critical to an efficient response. For instance, globally, during the COVID 19 pandemic, countries with an existing social registry responded faster than others (11 days versus 26, based on data from 47 programs). In Senegal, where the social registry and flagship national safety net programs are deployed at scale, the government provided support to 472,000 households to address the impacts of the pandemic.

**Strengthening national, government led ASP systems remains a critical policy priority for reducing chronic poverty, addressing crises, and bolstering resilience against climate change.** The exacerbation of climate change is leading to increasingly severe effects on households, notably through diminished agricultural yields, loss of assets, or displacement. Collectively, climate related events and conflict are escalating the demand for support. Addressing these challenges necessitates a long term vision and continuous investment in the foundational elements of national ASP systems, as well as expanding coverage of core ASP programs capable of fostering the resilience of vulnerable households and scaling up rapidly when required. Additionally, it is vital to support the key elements that will contribute to the long term sustainability of the ASP systems, including broad societal recognition of ASP's relevance and impacts, political commitment at the local and national levels, strong engagement by the international community, explicit institutional anchoring of programs and systems, as well as efforts by development and humanitarian actors to contribute to the development of national systems and align their support.





## 2 THE SAHEL ADAPTIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION PROGRAM: OVERVIEW

### 2.1 SASPP OBJECTIVE AND STRUCTURE

SASPP is funded by a multi-donor trust fund (MDTF) with contributions from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Agence française de Développement (AFD); the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of

Denmark; and the United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (FCDO). Its objective is to support the six Sahelian countries in building ASP systems primarily to help vulnerable households prepare for, cope with, and adapt to the impacts of shocks, with a particular focus on shocks induced by climate change



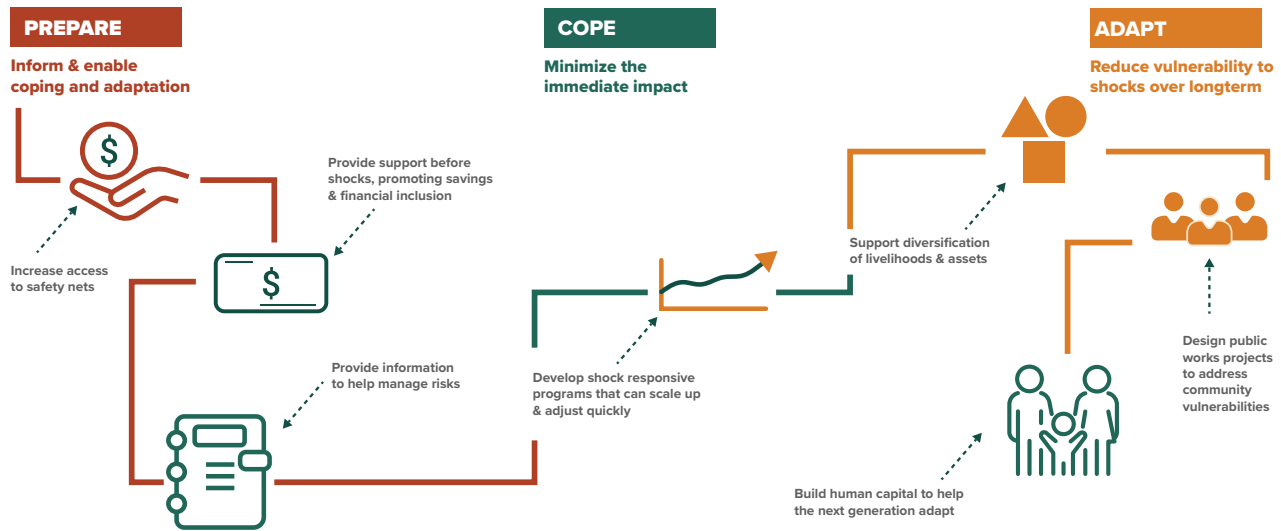


## BOX 1 WHAT IS ADAPTIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION?

**Adaptive social protection** is a set of social protection policies, programs, and instruments that support the poorest and promote their human capital, productivity, and resilience. Programs invest in a household's capacity to prepare for, cope with, and adapt to shocks. The concept integrates social protection with disaster risk management and climate change adaptation, aiming to build a flexible system responsive to changing needs and risks households face. ASP systems include regular safety net and economic inclusion programs and interventions that can scale up and reach the most vulnerable in a timely manner in case of a covariate shock.

**FIGURE 1**

How can ASP help?



Source: World Bank (2020). <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/infographic/2020/09/17/adaptive-social-protection>

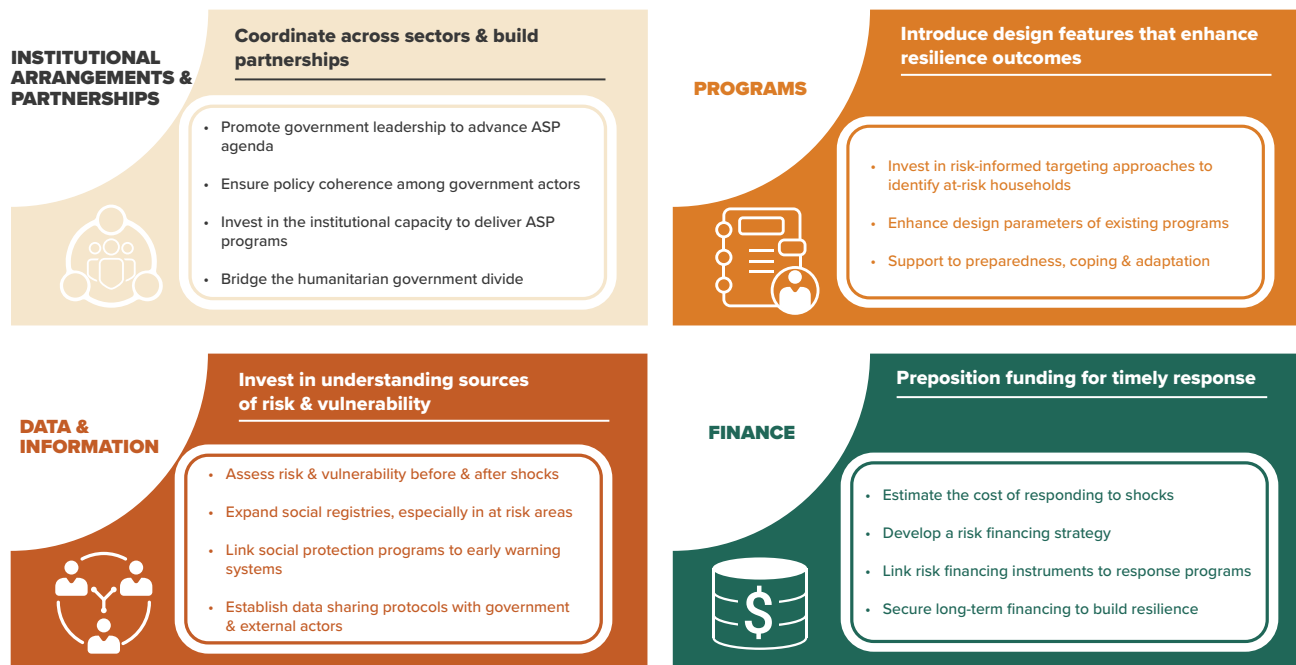
**Four building blocks are critical for ASP to provide a basis for resilience and shock response successfully:**

- 1. Programs and delivery systems:** Promoting programs designed to address prevailing household vulnerabilities, able to reach the most vulnerable (including women and other groups), and ensuring transfers are made through efficient payment systems. This includes a national safety net program, an economic inclusion component, a shock responsive component, and a payment platform.
- 2. Data and information:** Dynamic social registries to ensure ASP programs can reach the poor and most vulnerable and early warning systems to anticipate shocks and provide timely responses.
- 3. Finance:** Financing instrument(s) that can support sustainable programs and timely response planning.
- 4. Institutional arrangements and partnerships:** Mechanisms to articulate roles and responsibilities clearly and ensure government leadership in coordinating and aligning actors supporting responses to climate shocks.

## BOX 1 CONTINUED

### FIGURE 2

#### The four building blocks for putting in place ASP systems



Source: World Bank. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/infographic/2020/09/17/adaptive-social-protection>

**The SASPP aims to strengthen countries' adaptive social protection systems by investing across the four ASP building blocks, deploying a combination of country and regional activities.** Through a combination of recipient executed trust fund and Bank executed trust fund activities, the SASPP finances (1) direct financial support embedded in investment projects financed by the International Development Association (IDA), (2) technical assistance in each of the six countries, and (3) a regional analytical work and knowledge exchange agenda to complement and reinforce country focused activities. The support provided to governments alongside IDA investment projects offers a mechanism to invest in ASP systems, pilot and adapt innovative approaches, as well as promote more adaptive IDA financed interventions while taking advantage of existing project implementation capacity. The activities planned under

the regional thematic pillars and the technical assistance in each country are very closely coordinated, often carried out by the same staff, to ensure that analytical findings inform operational guidance and vice versa. Indeed, regional activities typically stem from demand from country teams for support in areas relevant to multiple stakeholders. Similarly, the analytical activities planned under the regional thematic pillars are coordinated and complementary, ensuring data collection efforts can be shared where relevant.

**The SASPP is managed by the Social Protection and Jobs unit of the West Central Africa regional department of the World Bank and combines expertise in Washington, D.C. and the six Sahelian countries.** A core management team manages the day to day operations of the MDTF, providing advice to teams and processing grants, preparing

the strategic directions of the program, and monitoring the SASPP portfolio based on its results framework. Additionally, together with the regional staff, the core management team promotes knowledge exchanges and peer learning. It ensures the alignment of the SASPP work program with the broader ASP agenda of the World Bank. The SASPP management team and donors come together annually for a partnership council meeting to discuss the program's technical work at regional and country levels and to endorse the strategic directions. The country focused activities are led and managed by the Bank's technical teams in the context of our Social Protection and Jobs broader engagement in each country. A strong presence in each country provides the foundations for a deep and regular engagement with government counterparts and development partners.

## 2.2 SASPP IMPLEMENTATION OVERVIEW AND RESULTS

**Overall, since the inception of the SASPP in 2014, the Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) has allocated US\$202.95 million to investment projects in the six countries as part of IDA engagement.** During Phase 2, the program has so far allocated US\$158.4 million (US\$40 million in Burkina Faso, US\$26 million in Chad, US\$2.4 million in Mali, US\$30 million in Mauritania, US\$30 million in Niger, and US\$30 million in Senegal, see Tables 12 and 14 in Appendix 2). In FY24, SASPP MDTF supported a new operation launched in Chad with US\$20 million and approved an additional financing of US\$10 million in Mauritania. A new operation is planned in Burkina Faso in FY25, with expected contributions from the SASPP MDTF. As can be seen from Table 12, the SASPP leveraged significant IDA financing (including US\$1,073 million in dedicated ASP projects, as well as IDA support through development policy operations supporting ASP reforms). Areas of support vary across countries, and details for the ongoing support are provided below for each country. Overall, SASPP's recipient executed activities have focused on financing systems building (social registries, payment systems, early warning systems), institutional arrangements (coordination mechanisms, strategies, triggers, and so on), regular safety net programs and economic inclusion interventions (to increase resilience to climate change), shock response (to address the impacts of climate related shocks, including droughts and floods, and provide support to refugees and host communities), as well as support to ASP financing mechanisms.

**At the country level, SASPP has supported the deployment of in depth technical assistance on a broad range of issues in each country.** So far, more than US\$13.7 million has been allocated to country-specific technical assistance during Phase 2 (of which US\$12.5 million has been committed or disbursed; see Table 16 in Appendix 2). These Bank executed trust funds have provided a unique opportunity for country staff to provide high quality technical assistance to counterparts and ensure a strong presence on the ground. In each country, teams implement a series of activities across multiple areas depending on the needs of our counterparts. These activities support both innovations and technical developments, as well as efforts to strengthen the national capacity to lead, design, and implement national ASP systems. Progress is summarized below under each country section, organized along the four building blocks of ASP. The SASPP also supports the expenditure associated with the supervision of Recipient Executed Trust Funds, as well as the management and administration of the overall program (about US\$5.8 million; see Table 17 in Appendix 2). Results are discussed in the country section below.

**At the regional level, SASPP has supported a broad regional analytical work and knowledge exchange agenda to serve strategic country level needs,** so far allocating around US\$9.6 million to these elements in Phase 2 (see Table 15 in Appendix 2). The ongoing and planned work under the five pillars is presented in detail below. It has contributed to regional knowledge sharing and South South learning events (for example, a regional technical workshop and several study trips on social registries), generating deepened knowledge (for example, on the correlation between poverty and food insecurity and the long term impacts of productive inclusion measures); providing detailed diagnostics (for example, on disaster risk financing landscapes); offering operational guidance (for example, on adapting program design to insecurity or to strengthen human capital outcomes); as well as creating advocacy materials to foster government buy in and long term sustainability (for example, an infographic on the impacts of ASP in the Sahel). The results framework shows the progress realized in producing key technical and advisory outputs on the four building blocks, which is in line with the set targets. The work on disaster risk financing and payment systems has benefitted from strong technical partnerships with the Center for Disaster Protection (CDP) and the Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP), respectively.

**The results framework presented in Appendix 1 highlights key progress made during FY24.** These include increased support to beneficiaries. Overall, the program directly financed delivering shock response interventions to more than 1,212,000 individuals in the six countries, surpassing the FY24 target of 946,000 individuals. Productive inclusion programs also increased their coverage to reach more than 103,000 households as planned, and multiple expansions are planned in some of the countries. Turning to some of the systems supported by SASPP (but not exclusively financed by SASPP), progress has been made in the number of households registered in social registries in the six countries, with an estimated 3.25 million households registered (an increase of almost 450,000 households since last year), representing an estimated 68 percent of the poor households present in the region. The share of digital payments also increased, reaching an average of around 57 percent.

**SASPP activities—both knowledge and operational—have adopted a strong gender focus. Gender is a critical dimension for ASP systems since poverty affects women differently due to gender roles, norms, and inequalities in power/resources.** Women tend to be more impacted by climate change and shocks. Their adaptive capacity is constrained by multiple barriers to accessing assets, employment, information, and finance, among others. A deliberate approach is required to ensure that programs promote women’s empowerment and do not exacerbate gender inequalities and vulnerability. SASPP is using multiple entry points to promote gender equity in ASP, including removing barriers and promoting women’s inclusion in registries and programs (with women as primary recipients in many countries); supporting accompanying measures tailored to women’s constraints; supporting a shift in gender norms; ensuring delivery systems such as payment systems are gender sensitive; and promoting grievance mechanisms that can address cases of sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment.







## 2.3 BUILDING THE MOMENTUM FOR SUSTAINABLE NATIONAL ASP SYSTEMS

**Beyond SASPP activities focused on the six countries and five regional thematic pillars, the SASPP is increasingly contributing to building strong momentum for sustainable ASP in the region.** Promoting the long term sustainability of national ASP systems is critical in the Sahel to address the chronic poverty and multiple compounding shocks faced by the region efficiently. This calls for a strong vision with clear standards in terms of the instruments that are needed to reach this vision, as well as the mobilization of all stakeholders, both in country, within the region, and on the global level. The SASPP program has increasingly intensified its advocacy and collaboration efforts to increase this momentum, in addition to the ongoing support to strengthening national capacity in each of the countries supported by the program.

**To guide this effort, in FY24, the SASPP has set out a vision for its support in the region and proposed standards for key instruments to enhance the long term sustainability of ASP systems in the Sahel.** Having a long term orientation is critical to focus on sustainable investments and ensure sustained support to the poorest and most vulnerable in a context of growing fragility and increased vulnerability to climate shocks. The proposed objective for the SASPP is to support countries so that in the Sahel, by 2030, sustainable national adaptive

social protection systems strengthen the resilience of at least the poorest 15 percent and effectively respond to climate shocks across all regions. To reach that objective, the team has identified a series of minimum standards that core ASP instruments need to achieve, embedding sustainability as a core principle. These standards, elaborated in consultation with the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and the World Food Programme (WFP), can help organize key stakeholders around a common understanding of priorities once the political, technical, and institutional investments required for their full operationalization have been identified. Strong systems are critical to ensure the efficiency and governance of ASP and to ensure continuity of delivery during periods of crises or shocks.

**SASPP also increased its communications efforts to support advocacy in positioning ASP as an efficient solution to boost the resilience of the poorest and most vulnerable.** In addition to country level engagement to promote in country buy in, the team established a strong digital community to disseminate SASPP key messages and core outputs (resulting in almost 30,000 organic impressions of SASPP posts on [LinkedIn](#) and high levels of engagement) while continuously upgrading its [website](#) with new key publications on ASP in the Sahel. The team has also prepared core products for a broader dissemination of key messages on ASP in the Sahel, including an [infographic on key ASP impacts \(Box 2\)](#) and an animated video that communicates the vision of ASP in the region.



## BOX 2 DEMONSTRATED ASP IMPACTS ON THE POOREST AND MOST VULNERABLE, SOCIETY, AND THE ECONOMY

FIGURE 3



In FY24, the SASPP continued to harness its rich partnership with United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and WFP. SASPP’s well established partnership with UNICEF and WFP regional teams was further strengthened on the technical front (for example, with the organization of a workshop on social registries in October 2023 and a joint research program on social cohesion), on the strategic level (for example, with a joint reflection on the future of the lean season response), as well as on the operational level, with an effort to provide

coordinated support to governments along the core ASP instruments. On the operational front, the UNICEF/WFP joint program, supported by BMZ and German development bank, Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW), provided a mechanism for the two agencies to support strengthening the ASP building blocks as well as deliver support either through government (track 1 of the twin track approach) or outside the national system but aligned with the national systems’ parameters and instruments. More broadly, the

three institutions have adopted a joint approach to many of the regional engagements described below, ensuring a unique message or position in key fora. The impact of this collaboration was highlighted in a blog post published in April 2024.

**In FY24, the SASPP also intensified its collaboration and advocacy efforts with other key stakeholders along four dimensions.** First, SASPP has intensified its work with non governmental and humanitarian actors on the connection between humanitarian assistance and social protection, including by participating in Cash Learning Partnership activities and in the European Humanitarian Forum in March 2024. Second, SASPP is participating in the annual technical and policy dialogues on food security, led by the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (Comité permanent Inter Etats de Lutte contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel) and West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) with support from the Sahel and West Africa Club of the Organization for Economic Co operation and

Development. The objective is to promote integrating ASP interventions as part of national plans for food security and resilience. A third axis has focused on critical actors at the policy level, such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) or the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), to ensure their regional or country level policy dialogues embed core ASP principles and instruments. As a result, the social protection framework (and associated operational plan) adopted by ECOWAS in November 2023 is anchored in strong ASP principles. Finally, SASPP co led the Sahel Alliance's Temporary Coordination Group on ASP with the German government to support increasing ASP coverage, improved coherence and convergence of ASP related programs, and joint advocacy and communication on ASP (**Box 3**). The group has relied on some of the SASPP's policy and analytical work to adopt a series of key messages on ASP in the Sahel as well as core principles to guide its members' engagement in the region to ensure convergence and to support the construction of sustainable national ASP systems.

### **BOX 3 SAHEL ALLIANCE TEMPORARY COORDINATION GROUP ON ASP**

In December 2023, under the joint German and World Bank presidency of the Sahel Alliance, a Temporary Coordination Group on ASP was set up to enhance members' joint understanding, coordination, and approaches. This contributes to the priority area "Strengthening resilience to climate, economic, and other shocks through adaptive social protection systems and integrated food systems," agreed by the July 2023 General Assembly. The group consists of partners engaging in ASP in the Sahel and aims to support increasing ASP coverage, improved coherence and convergence of ASP related programs, and joint advocacy and communication on ASP.

By May 2024, the group had formulated key messages on ASP in the Sahel, recognizing its centrality to the region's development:

- ASP is an investment approach to improving the well-being of poor and vulnerable people, promoting their human capital and productivity, and building their resilience to shocks.
- ASP aims to optimize social protection program coverage and delivery systems to ensure effective support before, during, and after a shock.
- ASP is a crucial instrument to addressing the unequal impacts of climate change and strengthening the resilience of the poorest and most vulnerable members of society.
- ASP can help reduce future humanitarian needs in the Sahel.
- ASP has demonstrated its transformative impacts on poverty and vulnerability for program beneficiaries and society at large.

The Temporary Coordination Group is also working on developing a series of core principles to guide the work of its members in the region. These build on the recognition that national ownership of social protection systems is central to ASP systems' success in delivering their full impact on poverty and vulnerability. They also build on the importance of strong national social protection systems to boost efficiency while recognizing that ensuring full coverage will require concerted and synergetic support from donors and technical partners. During FY25, the group will aim to adopt core principles for its members' support for ASP in the region and develop common advocacy tools.



**In FY25, the SASPP team will focus on positioning ASP as a key element of climate change strategies and a critical outlet for climate finance.** This will build on ongoing efforts to ensure its core programs are climate smart, including, for instance, ensuring adaptive social protection activities, including productive inclusion interventions, are tailored to the climate vulnerability profiles of different populations and promote adaptation to climate change while mitigating risks of maladaptation (see for instance Pillar C). In particular, SASPP will work on developing a climate narrative that articulates

how ASP links to climate resilience and contributes to climate goals. Using the language of climate actors, this will be used to make a case for investing in ASP as a mechanism for climate resilience to agencies leading climate change policies, as well as those involved in financing responses to climate change, such as national finance ministries and bilateral or global climate funds. In addition to advocacy among climate actors at the global level, SASPP will identify specific actions that can be taken to ensure that ASP is considered in national climate strategies and financing mechanisms.





### 3 SASPP REGIONAL PROGRAM: FY24 ACHIEVEMENTS AND FY25 PLANS

The SASPP regional knowledge program aims to promote regional analytical work and expand knowledge generation and sharing on topics critical to strengthening adaptive social protection systems in the Sahel. The activities aim to generate critical insights into the nature of shocks, how they impact poor and vulnerable households, and the design of instruments to address those effects. While the principal emphasis is on climate related shocks, the program reflects the utility of adaptive social protection to build resilience to covariate shocks more generally (for example, food insecurity,

fragility, and the COVID 19 pandemic). To that end, the SASPP team, in consultation with government counterparts and partners, focuses on analysis, learning, and knowledge sharing within five thematic pillars, treating questions and issues that are common across countries and can thus benefit from a regional approach (Box 4). These activities are interconnected and strongly anchored in the country focused operational programs supported by the SASPP MDTF across the six countries.

#### BOX 4 THE FIVE SASPP REGIONAL KNOWLEDGE THEMATIC PILLARS

A	<p><b>Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience</b></p> <p>The objective is to enhance the understanding of the impacts of climate related shocks on poverty and vulnerability in order to inform the design of ASP programs in the region. Activities focus on understanding the types of shocks and their impact on poverty; the timing of household and community responses to shocks; the mechanisms by which shocks affect households; and the impacts of safety nets on poverty, vulnerability, and the economy.</p>
B	<p><b>Climate-Shock Responsive Delivery Systems</b></p> <p>Activities aim to inform the design of adaptive programs and delivery systems for the Sahel. They are focused on designing shock responsive social protection interventions, identifying, and sharing operational nuts and bolts of adaptive social protection, strengthening disaster risk financing for shock responsive social protection programs, and creating evidence of the impact of shock responsive interventions.</p>



## BOX 4 CONTINUED

<b>C</b>	<p><b>Productive Inclusion and Women’s Empowerment</b></p> <p>These activities aim to enhance knowledge and government capacity in designing and implementing economic inclusion interventions tailored to the Sahel region, with a focus on building resilience to climate change and empowering women. Activities include systematic multi country evaluations of the effectiveness of productive inclusion packages, identification of operational lessons and implementation insights for these interventions, and technical assistance on program design and implementation.</p>
<b>D</b>	<p><b>Fragility and Forced Displacement</b></p> <p>Activities under this pillar aim to support governments’ ASP programs and systems in navigating fragility and forced displacement. They aim to enhance our understanding of the role and impact of social protection in addressing the drivers of fragility, develop operational solutions for FCV contexts and forcibly displaced populations, improve coordination between humanitarian and development actors, and adapt program and systems’ design and implementation to population mobility.</p>
<b>E</b>	<p><b>Adaptive Social Protection and Human Capital</b></p> <p>Activities under this pillar focus on enhancing and tailoring programs to strengthen and protect their contribution to human capital development in the face of increased frequency and severity of shocks due to climate change. Activities focus on improving the understanding of the linkages between climate shocks and human capital in the Sahel, identifying program design features that can strengthen investments in human capital in a shock prone environment, and identifying the most effective ways to safeguard existing human capital in the event of climate shocks.</p>

**In addition to the continued focus on activities initiated in earlier fiscal years, a few new areas of focus were added in FY24.** Under the pillar on poverty, vulnerability, and resilience, the team added a new line of work to examine the impact of social safety nets on social cohesion, which is critical for the ongoing policy dialogue in the Sahel. Under the climate shock responsive delivery systems pillar, the SASPP focused on a series of knowledge sharing and learning events on social registries. Under the pillar on economic inclusion and women’s empowerment, the team started work on climate smart programming to ensure productive inclusion plays its full role in increasing adaptation to climate change in the Sahel. The fragility and forced displacement pillar dropped the task focused on adapting delivery to forced displacement, given the publication of similar guides by other institutions and by the Fragility, Conflict, and Violence (FCV) unit of the World Bank. Finally, based on earlier research on the linkages between climate shocks and human capital, the ASP and human capital pillar designed pilots for revised human capital accompanying measures to enhance their impact on human capital outcomes. At the end of FY25, all pillars will be revisited to reflect

emerging priorities and focus more strongly on sustainability as part of the third phase of the SASPP.

**Regional activities have adopted a strong gender focus, and a gender lens will be systematically applied to all aspects in FY25 to identify additional entry points.** Past and ongoing efforts to promote gender equity outcomes include, the analytical work on poverty and vulnerability, the ongoing research on the impact of safety nets on social cohesion, the adaptation of payment systems to women’s constraints, the initial diagnostics informing the design of productive inclusion programs, the priority given to women in most programs, the design of accompanying measures to promote women’s mental health, the deployment of family sessions to promote shifts in social norms, the ongoing effort to promote the adoption of clean cooking to improve women’s and children’s health, and the analysis of programs’ ability to adapt to women’s and men’s patterns of mobility. In FY25, SASPP will systematically identify additional entry points to further boost gender outcomes, with support from FCDO’s Social Protection Technical Assistance, Advice, and Resource (STAAR) initiative.



### 3.1 PILLAR A: POVERTY, VULNERABILITY, AND RESILIENCE

The objective of this thematic pillar is to enhance the understanding of the impacts of climate related shocks on poverty and vulnerability to inform the design of ASP programs in the region. It also aims to assess the impact that social safety net programs have on beneficiaries, social cohesion, and the local economy. The evidence generated in this thematic pillar is intended to inform policymakers about the role and impacts of safety net programs and guide improvements in the design of ASP programs and systems at the regional and country levels. Furthermore, enhanced understanding is crucial for advocacy efforts aiming to make the case for continued investments and bolster the long term sustainability of ASP systems. As presented in detail below, an additional strand of work was added to generate new evidence and insights on the impact of social protection on social cohesion and the design and implementation features that can best generate positive impacts.

#### Activities are organized around four components:

- (1) **Types of shocks and their impact on poverty:** This component aims to understand the profile of risk facing households and their adaptation strategies to inform the targeting and design of resilience building interventions.
- (2) **Timing of household and community responses to shocks:** This component aims to inform the design and timing of shock-response ASP programs by examining household welfare changes in the event of various shocks such as annual seasonality related to the growing season as well as drought or extreme rainfalls.
- (3) **Mechanisms by which shocks affect households:** This component aims to better understand the transmission channels through which shocks affect household livelihoods, which is crucial to designing effective interventions.
- (4) **Impacts of safety nets on poverty, vulnerability, and the economy:** This component aims to generate evidence regarding the impacts of safety nets on beneficiaries, as well as society and local economies, to advocate for substantial investments by governments and partners.

#### COMPONENT 1:

##### *Types of shocks and their impact on poverty*

**In FY24, the team undertook a quantitative analysis of the correlation between poverty and food insecurity across the Sahel.** While safety net programs often address chronic poverty, many programs in the region tend to prioritize food insecurity reduction as their main objective. A key objective of this work is to understand the extent to which these objectives overlap and, hence, whether programs with different objectives should target similar households or adopt different approaches. Another objective, as part of our dialogue with the Cadre Harmonisé (Harmonized Framework), is to gain a deeper understanding of the data and methodology used to estimate the prevalence of food insecurity. Preliminary results show a correlation between monetary poverty and food insecurity in the Sahel, but not a perfect alignment. This pattern is consistent regardless of whether food security is measured through the household level food security score or the regional level harmonized framework data. The distinct characteristics of poor and non poor households make chronic poverty easier to predict than food insecurity based on a limited set of household characteristics. This may be due to the transient nature of food insecurity compared to poverty, which is more chronic by nature. Therefore, social protection programs that aim at addressing food insecurity must adopt additional or different criteria. This has implications for social protection programs that try to serve food insecurity objectives and for social registries, which will need to include and regularly update variables used as proxies of food insecurity, particularly in areas at high risk of food insecurity.

**In FY24, the team finalized its analysis of the relationship between consumption patterns and weather anomalies in Niger in order to estimate the likelihood of households falling into poverty following a drought.** The analysis, conducted in collaboration with Virginia Tech scholars, led to elaborating a granular vulnerability map at the department level to inform shock response programs. The analysis was undertaken in Niger due to the availability of data and the government's efforts since 2019 to establish a drought response program with technical assistance from the SASPP. The analysis provided estimates on the average number of people affected by moderate to severe droughts and those at risk of poverty due to such events—crucial data for planning drought response programs. The findings suggest

that between 32 percent and 41 percent of households, equating to 6.5 to 8.3 million, face a heightened risk of poverty from adverse weather conditions. The analysis incorporated several drought indicators, including the water requirement satisfaction index, which was used as a trigger by Niger's drought response program.

**In FY25, the team will prepare a policy note on the overall relationship between poverty and food insecurity and a comprehensive note on the prevalence and impacts of shocks in the Sahel.** Building on the analysis undertaken in FY24, the team will prepare a policy note on the overlap between poverty and food insecurity, highlighting potential policy and design implications. Using data from the harmonized household surveys of household living conditions (Enquête Harmonisée sur les Conditions de Vie des Ménages [EHCVM]) conducted in 2021/22 in all Sahelian countries supported by SASPP except Mauritania, the team will update and expand an earlier policy note on the prevalence and impact of shocks in the Sahel. This update will provide an opportunity for a comprehensive review based on comparable data from five countries and to explore the evolution of the impact of shocks since 2019, a period marked by the COVID 19 crisis and increased security risks, as well as the changes in the use of negative coping mechanisms. These findings will provide governments with the information necessary to calibrate their national programs and plan their expansion over time.

### COMPONENT 2:

#### *Timing of household and community responses to shocks*

**In FY24, the team prepared new datasets to update the policy note on the impact of seasonality on poverty and food insecurity.** In line with the last task discussed under Component 1, the team cleaned and analyzed the new set of EHCVM surveys collected across the Sahel in 2021 and 2022. The datasets will provide a strong quantitative basis to update the policy note assessing the impact of seasonality on poverty and food insecurity in the Sahel, reflecting the post COVID 19 context. The initial analysis found that Sahelian households experience large seasonal swings in monetary welfare, even in the absence of climate shocks, which can inform program design and implementation.

**In FY25, the team will finalize the analysis and publish the update on seasonality.** The new work will improve on the earlier work in two dimensions: First, the team will use the new EHCVM data to compare the evolution of consumption and food security between harvest and lean seasons in two different agricultural years, establishing the impact of seasonality with greater precision. Second, Mali and Chad will be added to the analysis. As seasonality represents a chronic threat that can be anticipated and responded to through ASP programs, the analysis will help inform the choice and design of regular safety net programs and seasonal response programs to ensure their early deployment and prevent depletive coping strategies.

### COMPONENT 3:

#### *Mechanisms by which shocks affect households*

**In FY24, this component focused on one of the key transmission channels through which climate related shocks affect the poor in the long term, namely infant nutrition.** In coordination with human capital pillar activities, the analysis focused on assessing the impact of drought on children's health. The analysis uses the Demographic and Health Surveys available for Sahelian countries. Building on about 20 cross sectional surveys for Burkina Faso, Senegal, Mali, and Niger over 20 years (1992 to 2012), the analysis assesses the long term detrimental impact that climate related shocks can have on anthropometric measures. Beyond extreme events, the study also seeks to understand the impact of regular income volatility experienced by impoverished rural households due to varying weather patterns.

In FY25, the team will finalize the analysis and disseminate the results as an argument in the advocacy for ASP in the region.

### COMPONENT 4:

#### *Impacts of safety nets on poverty, vulnerability, and the economy*

**In FY24, the team developed a series of infographics to showcase the impacts of ASP programs in the Sahel.** The infographics, prepared in English and French, detail the benefits observed in various domains, including effects on beneficiaries—both immediate effects on poverty and

food security and longer-term gains in assets, savings, productivity, and resilience. They also emphasize the positive impact on future generations through children's human capital, as well as broader impacts on societies through social cohesion and the economy. Beyond the infographics, the team used impact data collected for this effort to prepare an animation on ASP in the Sahel and a short video in collaboration with the Alliance Sahel.

**The team started a new strand of work to quantify the impact of safety net programs on the economy.** This line of work will fill a gap in evidence revealed during the preparation of the infographics mentioned above. In FY24, the team conducted a global literature review on the impact of safety net programs on the economy to identify measurement methodologies that could be deployed in the Sahel. Based on this review, the team opted to employ simulation methods, including Local Economy-Wide Impact Evaluation simulations, to capture the full impact of ASP

programs on local economies, including spillovers on non-beneficiaries. The team recruited researchers from the University of California, Davis to conduct this analysis in FY25.

**Finally, in FY24, the team initiated a study to examine the impact of social safety nets on social cohesion.** This new line of work was launched to supplement the limited existing evidence and to provide evidence of impacts on this domain, which is critical to the ongoing policy dialogue in the Sahel. In FY24, the team conducted a review of conceptual and empirical literature (including new evidence generated by the qualitative work in Cameroon and Burkina Faso under the Pillar on Fragility and Forced Displacement), adopting a gender lens. This resulted in the preparation of a conceptual framework of how social protection impacts social cohesion and a summary of available data on impacts in partnership with WFP and UNICEF (see Box 5), which will be published in a SASPP technical paper in early FY25.

## BOX 5 HOW SOCIAL PROTECTION CAN IMPACT SOCIAL COHESION IN THE SAHEL

Social cohesion has emerged as an important topic for the social protection sector, as more cohesive societies can be more resilient to climate shocks. Social protection programs can play a role in building institutional trust and strengthening the citizen-state contract, which is especially relevant in fragile contexts such as the Sahel.

Conceptually, social cohesion consists of three components—trust, inclusive identity, and cooperation for the common good—and has horizontal (relations within and across groups and communities) and vertical aspects (relations between citizens and the state):

- Trust refers to the ability to trust other people, both within and outside one's social circles, as well as trust in the state, including its local and national institutions.
- Inclusive identity refers to when individuals can identify with various group identities (for example, gender, religion, village) but also feel a mutual belonging to a broader identity such as a national identity.
- Cooperation for the common good is defined as the cooperation among people/groups for interests that go beyond those of the individual/group, including cooperation with the state.

Evidence of social protection's impact on social cohesion in the Sahel remains limited. It suggests improvements in beneficiaries' sense of trust toward others and increased involvement with local collective action. For example, safety net beneficiaries in Mauritania increased social connections in the community, including trusting others and being able to ask for advice. They also significantly increased their community involvement, as measured through participation in associations and volunteering. In Niger, economic inclusion programs increased female beneficiaries' trust within the community, collective decision-making, and resource-sharing with non-beneficiaries.

**BOX 5 CONTINUED**

They also decreased disputes or tensions. In Mali, the national safety nets program also increased beneficiaries' sharing of resources (money and food) with other community households. Finally, in Chad, safety net beneficiaries reported making transfers to their close ones who did not get the safety net and investing in local public goods such as a school classroom and a well.

However, the current quantitative evidence base is mostly limited to beneficiaries and does not cover all dimensions of social cohesion. To address this gap, together with UNICEF and WFP, SASPP has launched a work program that will perform quantitative data analysis of existing datasets from impact evaluations in the Sahel to examine any potential social cohesion impacts more closely. The work program will also include qualitative studies to unpack pathways of how social protection programs affect social cohesion and understand what program design and implementation features can promote greater positive social cohesion impacts.

Source: Framework adapted from Leininger et al, 2021, Social cohesion: a new definition and a proposal for its measurement in Africa. DIE Discussion Paper 31/2021. Bonn: German Development Institute.

**In FY25, building on the regional review of impacts and associated infographics, country-specific notes will be prepared.** Starting with Niger and Senegal, for which drafts have been finalized, the team will prepare similar country notes featuring more detailed data for Mali, Burkina Faso, Chad, and Mauritania. These country notes will combine the regional narrative with detailed information on each country, providing readers with a framework and country specific details. Country teams will disseminate this series of notes to their counterparts and in country partners as part of the national policy dialogue and advocacy efforts.

**In FY25, the team will also apply the methodology to estimate the impact of safety net programs on the economy to Senegal and Burkina Faso.** The analysis will be based on a combination of national survey data as well as data collected in past impact evaluations in these countries. The selection of Burkina Faso and Senegal is strategic, not only due to the availability of data but also because the

contrasting livelihood strategies and constraints faced by households in these countries offer a rich, comparative perspective for the analysis.

**Finally, in FY25, the team will deepen the understanding of social protection's impact on social cohesion in the Sahel by generating additional evidence through two work strands in collaboration with UNICEF and WFP.** First, the team will analyze existing datasets from quantitative social protection impact studies to identify social cohesion impacts not previously identified. Second, the team will carry out qualitative field studies to explore the processes and mechanisms by which social protection programs influence social cohesion, disaggregating the analysis by gender and key other demographic and socio economic dimensions, and review the design and implementation of select safety net programs to identify entry points for enhancing social cohesion outcomes (see Box 5).





TABLE 1

## Summary activities and outputs for Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience Pillar

COMPONENT	FY24 ACTUAL ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS	FY25 PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS
<b>COMPONENT 1:</b> Types of shocks and their impact on poverty	Analyzed household survey data in five countries (excluding Mauritania) to understand the overlap between poverty and food insecurity.	Prepare a policy note on the overlap between poverty and food insecurity, highlighting potential policy and design implications.
	Prepared a vulnerability map for Niger at the department level based on the estimated impact of drought on household consumption.	
		Prepare a policy note on the prevalence and impacts of shocks in the region based on EHCVM 2021 data.
<b>COMPONENT 2:</b> Timing of household and community responses to shocks	Prepared the EHCVM 2021 data sets and started the analysis of the impact of seasonality on poverty and food insecurity.	Prepare a policy note comparing the seasonality of consumption and food security in two agricultural years.
<b>COMPONENT 3:</b> Mechanisms by which shocks affect households	Assessed the long term impact of drought on children's health using Demographic and Health Surveys from Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, and Senegal (jointly with the team working on Human Capital).	Finalize the analysis and disseminate results.
<b>COMPONENT 4:</b> Economic impact of safety nets	Prepared an infographic on the various domains of impacts of ASP programs in the Sahel. Prepared an animated video on ASP definition and its impacts.	Prepare and disseminate country specific notes on ASP impacts.
	Prepared a review of the literature on methodologies to analyze the impact of safety nets on economies through the multiplier effect.	Conduct the analysis of the impact of safety nets on the local economy in Burkina Faso and Senegal.
	Prepared a conceptual framework on the impacts of social protection on social cohesion and a summary of evidence.	Analyze existing impact evaluation data to estimate impacts of ASP programs on social cohesion. Conduct a qualitative of processes and mechanisms by which ASP programs influence social cohesion.





## 3.2 PILLAR B: CLIMATE SHOCK-RESPONSIVE DELIVERY SYSTEMS

The objective of the thematic pillar on Climate Shock Responsive Delivery Systems is to inform the design of the shock responsive programs and adaptive delivery systems in Sahel countries and provide support in developing and implementing these programs and systems. The thematic pillar is organized into four components:

**(1) Designing shock responsive social protection interventions:** This component aims at informing the design of programs intending to respond to shocks and increase the resilience of the population.

**(2) Operational nuts and bolts of shock responsive social protection:** This component focuses on conducting innovative analysis and providing technical assistance to support the development of adaptive social protection delivery systems.

**(3) Disaster risk financing for shock responsive social protection:** This component focuses on the assessment of financing needs and the development of financing strategies for shock response.

**(4) Creating evidence of the impact of shock responsive social protection:** The objective of this component is to evaluate the relative effectiveness and impact of various shock response interventions in Sahel countries.

### COMPONENT 1:

#### *Designing shock-responsive social protection interventions*

During FY24, the team tested the Survey of Well-being via Instant and Frequent Tracking (SWIFT) methodology to optimize proxy means test models used to estimate consumption and inform beneficiary identification in the Sahel. This activity built on FY23 efforts to test the use of SWIFT methodology, which estimates poverty through high frequency phone surveys, for targeting social safety net programs. Compared to the traditional approach, this method substantially reduces the number of variables needed to estimate consumption (between eight and 15). This implies shorter questionnaires, reduced data collection costs, increased efficiency of the collection process, and, in turn, a faster expansion and more frequent updates of social registries. Second, the approach also includes fast changing poverty correlates that can capture changes in household

well-being during economic downturns and be used for shock response. Four SWIFT models were developed for Niger using the 2021/22 EHCVM data (national, urban, rural, and agro pastoral), resulting in proxy means tests that match or outperform classic ones with a considerably shorter questionnaire (see also the section on Niger). Furthermore, the team prepared a technical paper on the adequacy of SWIFT approaches for shock responsive targeting that builds on the experiences in Niger and other countries, namely Togo, Uganda, and Afghanistan.

**In FY24, the team also continued its efforts to identify trigger mechanisms that could activate drought response programs.** Building on work started in FY23, the team supported the completion of a performance analysis of the drought trigger indicator in Niger, adding an analysis of the rainfall regime analysis system, a crop prediction model currently operated by the regional AGRHYMET center. This work was done in collaboration with the CDP, AXA Climate, and the Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement (CIRAD) for the additional model. The comprehensive review of the early drought response pilot in Niger, initially planned for FY24, was postponed to FY25 in light of the pause in disbursement.

**In FY25, the team will finalize and disseminate analysis across these two areas.** The team plans to conduct a technical performance evaluation of drought early warning indicators in Mali in collaboration with the CDP and AXA Climate. Furthermore, the team will conduct a qualitative technical paper on the adequacy of SWIFT approaches for shock responsive targeting to inform potential adjustments to social registry questionnaires or program selection criteria.

### COMPONENT 2:

#### *Operational nuts and bolts of shock-responsive social protection*

During FY24, the team focused on knowledge generation, dissemination, and technical assistance activities on social registries. Social registries, alongside other core ASP instruments, are critical to the sustainability and efficiency of ASP systems in the region, as they promote continued delivery of support, even in contexts affected by increased fragility. The team finalized the note on dynamic social registries, which will be published in early FY25. They also organized several workshops and knowledge exchanges to disseminate

innovative findings on dynamic social registries, present models of social registries, and provide hands on learning opportunities for government practitioners and development partners (see Box 6). In October 2023, the team organized a regional technical workshop on social registries in Dakar in partnership with WFP. The learning material from this workshop was published as a SASPP technical paper to reach a broader audience. In the spring of 2024, the team hosted a webinar featuring the Brazilian authorities presenting the Cadastro Único to over 100 participants from the region. Finally, the team organized a study trip for members of the Senegalese registry to Brazil and a study trip for members of the Niger registry to Mauritania. Extensive technical assistance to country programs is reflected under the corresponding country sections.

**In FY25, the team will consolidate key knowledge management pieces that build on the experience of the various countries in the region and country specific technical assistance.** In particular, the team will finalize an internal repository of social registries that includes manuals, decrees, questionnaires, terms of reference, and information on needs assessment methodologies from social registries in the region and beyond. During FY25, the team will also prepare notes on deployment strategies for social registries and on the nexus between social registries and climate change. The team discarded the assessment of the data half life of social registries contemplated in FY23 to focus on identifying approaches to update social registries more systematically and make them more dynamic.

## BOX 6 FACILITATING SOUTH SOUTH LEARNING ON SOCIAL REGISTRIES

South South learning and regional knowledge exchanges constitute a key element in advancing the development of dynamic social registries in the Sahel. They spark inspiration for strategic considerations—such as vision, governance, and data collection methodologies—and provide practical solutions for operational challenges. In FY24, SASPP supported various knowledge sharing formats, including regional technical workshops, study tours, and webinars, to foster this exchange.

In October 2023, SASPP and WFP organized a regional technical workshop in Dakar, convening representatives from 10 countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Haiti, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, and Senegal). The workshop allowed participants to learn about Senegal's journey in developing its social registry, as well as global good practices on key aspects of social registries, including the policy objectives and institutional arrangements of registries, how to collect and keep data up to date, multiple approaches for the assessments of needs and conditions, coordination mechanisms with user programs, essential data protection safeguards, costs and benefits of social registries, and the technologies required to build such systems. To help government teams derive actionable insights and recommendations from the experiences of others, the workshop cultivated a dynamic dialogue through group discussions and field visits, fostering a sense of community. The workshop concluded with each delegation formulating concrete actions to strengthen their social registries. The impact of these exchanges is evident in the follow-up study trip undertaken by Niger's registry team to Mauritania in February 2024. Contemplating their intake and registration processes, IT system architecture, and institutional arrangements, the Nigerien team gained valuable insights into Mauritania's social registry that can inform Niger's Unified Social Registry (RSU) strategy.

In April 2024, SASPP also supported a study trip to Brazil by the Senegalese social registry team (also joined by Cabo Verde). Brazil's decentralized data collection and interoperability with administrative databases are highly relevant to Senegal's plans to expand its registry and maintain its data. Some of the proposed next steps, discussed below, include piloting on demand data collection, updating an approach that leverages existing infrastructure at the local level, and crafting a strategic document to outline a clear vision and a phased approach for the social registry's future development. A series of video conferences for all SASPP countries to explore lessons from Brazil complemented the in-person visit.

**In FY24, the team expanded its cooperation with CGAP to improve payment systems in the region.** Strengthening existing systems and deploying emerging ones is critical to ensuring timely, regular, and transparent transfers to beneficiaries, an essential element to maximize the impact of safety net programs. These systems are particularly crucial to sustained delivery in fragile contexts, and their consolidation is critical for ASP programs to continue functioning during crises. Furthermore, efficient and secure payment systems are also essential in light of the anticipated flow of climate funds through these systems, thereby contributing to expanding program coverage in the region. Finally, as highlighted by the Burkina Faso diagnostic, the digitalization of payments is especially relevant in conflict and insecurity, where mobile money is preferred to cash because it offers greater security and discretion. The SASPP CGAP collaboration aims to provide guidance in upgrading payment infrastructure to governments in the region. In FY24, the team focused on implementing key recommendations to strengthen safety net digital payments (such as improving the reliability of phone data, enhancing beneficiary access to payment related information, and fostering collaboration with payment providers). They also completed the assessment of the national government to person environment in Senegal, on the design of interoperable national platforms which integrate the needs of the social protection sector in Burkina Faso, and on the diagnostic of digital payments options for social safety nets, which can be implemented in the project's timeframe while building sustainable foundations for a modern government to people payments infrastructure in Chad.

**In FY25, analytical work in two key areas will complement continued technical assistance to government counterparts on payment systems will.** The first activity aims to deepen our understanding of the influence of social protection programs on beneficiaries' climate resilience and adaptation, as well as the role of financial services in amplifying these effects, culminating in a joint publication. The second will investigate practical ways financial services can leverage the attributes of social protection programs to improve climate outcomes, which will result in a technical note.

### COMPONENT 3:

#### *Disaster risk financing for shock-responsive social protection*

**In FY24, in collaboration with the CDP, the team supported a series of country level diagnostics.** In Burkina Faso, a diagnostic report on disaster risk financing for ASP reviewed the key disaster risks, the institutional setup for disaster response, and ASP arrangements (including existing financing arrangements). Recommendations include strengthening the ASP related fiscal risk assessment capacities of the government, bolstering the early warning system data and capabilities, and scaling up the use of dedicated disaster risk financing (DRF) instruments. A performance review of the drought index used by the African Risk Capacity (ARC) assessed the structure and performance of Africa Risk View sovereign drought insurance products to identify potential design enhancements. Finally, the team identified three satellite climate indicators that could enhance the climate data dashboard of the early warning system with increased timeliness and granularity. In collaboration with AXA Climate, further analyses were conducted to determine the most reliable satellite rainfall data source for Burkina Faso and to allow for remotely estimating local start of agricultural season dates. A DRF for ASP diagnostic report was completed in Mali, with recommendations including expanding the use of DRF instruments such as African Risk Capacity (ARC) for ASP to ensure better financial coverage of flood risks in the country.

**In FY24, in addition to country specific work, the team initiated a regional study on domestic contingent financing instruments, which could be used to finance ASP.** The study, implemented by the CDP in collaboration with the Overseas Development Institute (ODI), started with case studies in Chad and Mali and was conducted with a combination of desk review and field interviews. Previously planned work on a financial drought response planning tool to enable the indicative costing of national drought response programs was dropped after initial discussions revealed the expected cost and technical challenges in developing such a tool. Finally, the team organized a series of internal workshops on early warning systems and DRF in January 2024 for SASPP team members and donors. The workshops reflected structures and best practices of food security and climate early warning systems in the Sahel, linkages with ASP, concepts and methods of DRF, and practical applications for ASP, especially in the Sahel.



**In FY25, the team plans to focus on a combination of country specific analysis and regional outputs.** At the country level, ARC index performance reviews are planned for the remaining SASPP countries, building on the analysis in Burkina Faso. In Chad, the team plans to complete the DRF diagnostic report for ASP, undertake a study on rural flood impacts, and support the design of a trigger for a potential flood response program. Finally, the team has planned a study of the performance of different drought indices in Mali to inform the potential development of a trigger based drought response program. At the regional level, the team will complete the study on domestic contingent financing instruments and ensure its dissemination.

#### **COMPONENT 4:**

##### *Creating evidence of impact of shock-responsive social protection*

**In FY24, the team analyzed the impacts of three modalities in Niger and launched a similar evaluation in Mauritania.**

The impact evaluations are undertaken in collaboration with the World Bank Development Impact Evaluation team and Oxford University to test three modalities (a traditional response during the lean season, an earlier response of equal duration, and an earlier response of longer duration—all providing the same total amount to households). The

results from Niger show that there is value in intervening early. Relative to the traditional response, the early intervention improves welfare, alters financial behaviors by reducing borrowing and increasing savings, and boosts psychological well being before households enter the lean season. The smaller early transfers delivered throughout the year perform as well as the traditional response but have larger effects on food consumption. The various modalities have similar effects beyond the lean season, indicating the need for regular safety net programs to build longer term resilience. These results have been disseminated at the World Bank and with partners, and in country dissemination is planned in FY25. In FY24, a similar effort was launched in Mauritania, with baseline survey data collection and the launch of the intervention.

In FY25, the team will conclude the analysis of the impacts of alternative modalities in Mauritania and Niger. In FY25, the team will prepare a technical paper presenting the results of the intervention in Niger. The team also expects to collect survey data once the Mauritania shock responsive program has been fully implemented and to produce preliminary results within the fiscal year. In Senegal, the shock response intervention pilot was not triggered, and the activity was cancelled.





TABLE 2

## Summary activities and outputs for Climate Shock-Responsive Delivery Systems Pillar

COMPONENT	FY24 ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS	FY25 PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS
<b>COMPONENT 1:</b> <b>Designing shock-responsive social protection interventions</b>	Developed SWIFT models for Niger.	Disseminate technical paper on SWIFT methodology
	Prepared a technical paper on the adequacy of SWIFT methodology for the identification of shock response interventions.	
	Completed a performance analysis of the drought trigger indicator in Niger.	Conduct an evaluation of satellite-based drought early warning indicators in Mali.
<b>COMPONENT 2:</b> <b>Operational nuts and bolts of shock-responsive social protection</b>	Organized social registry regional workshop with WFP (published technical paper with training material), a webinar on the Brazilian Cadastro Único, and visits of the Senegal registry team to Brazil and of the Niger registry team to Mauritania. Finalized technical paper on dynamic social registries.	Prepare a note on the nexus between social registries and climate change.  Prepare a note on deployment strategies for dynamic social registries.
	Provided technical assistance on social registries to Niger, Senegal, Mali, and Mauritania.	Provide technical assistance on social registries to Niger, Senegal, Mali, Mauritania, and Chad.
		Prepare a technical note on the role of ASP, particularly financial services, on beneficiaries' climate resilience and adaptation. Prepare a technical note on how financial services can leverage social protection programs to improve climate outcomes.
	Provided technical assistance to teams on strengthening payment systems for ASP in Chad and Senegal.	Provide technical assistance on strengthening payment systems to teams in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mauritania, Niger, and Senegal.
<b>COMPONENT 3:</b> <b>Disaster risk financing for shock-responsive social protection</b>	Prepared country-level diagnostics: Burkina Faso and Mali DRF for ASP diagnostic reports, Burkina Faso performance review of ARC drought index, and inputs to SAP data dashboard in Burkina Faso.  Started regional review of domestic contingent financing instruments.	Prepare country level diagnostics, including a diagnostic of DRF for ASP in Chad, a study on rural flood impacts, a review of drought indices performance in Mali, and ARC index performance reviews in all countries. Finalize and disseminate the regional study on domestic financing instruments.
<b>COMPONENT 4:</b> <b>Creating evidence of impact of shock-responsive social protection</b>	Completed data collection for the Niger shock responsive intervention impact evaluation and prepared early results.  Launched Mauritania shock-responsive intervention impact evaluation and completed baseline survey.	Deliver a report and policy note on Niger shock responsive intervention impact evaluation.  Complete data collection for the Mauritania intervention and deliver a presentation on preliminary results.

### 3.3 PILLAR C: PRODUCTIVE INCLUSION AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Economic inclusion interventions have proven impactful in fostering investments in income generating activities, with transformative effects on the livelihoods and well being of poor households and women's empowerment. Based on a systematic diagnostic of women's barriers to economic empowerment, these multifaceted packages are designed to address core economic and psychosocial constraints faced by women, including community based savings groups, coaching, psychosocial interventions (addressing aspirations and life skills), micro entrepreneurship training, market access facilitation, and grants. They are a core part of ASP and provide an important pathway to increase productivity, reduce food insecurity, and contribute to resilience to climate change. This thematic pillar aims to enhance knowledge in designing and implementing economic inclusion interventions tailored to the Sahel region, particularly to women, supporting the expansion of government led programs, as well as enriching the regional and global knowledge base. Since countries in the region have decided to expand productive inclusion measures, the pillar will increasingly focus on supporting this ongoing expansion through a combination of technical assistance, policy dialogue, analytical work, policy notes, and dissemination events.

The pillar is structured around three main components:

- (1) Multi country evaluation of the effectiveness of productive inclusion packages:** This component focuses on assessing the impact and effectiveness of productive inclusion interventions implemented by governments in the region.
- (2) Operational learning and implementation insights:** This component aims at extracting operational learnings from program implementation, building on the diverse array of approaches deployed in the region.
- (3) Policy dialogue, dissemination, and just in time technical assistance:** This component is dedicated to supporting policy dialogue and providing just in time technical assistance to governments in the region on program design and implementation.

#### COMPONENT 1:

*Multi-country evaluation of the effectiveness of productive inclusion packages*

**In FY24, the team focused on completing ongoing impact evaluations and undertaking additional analysis on selected elements or population groups.** In collaboration with the Development Impact Evaluation department, the Africa Gender Innovation Lab, and Innovations for Poverty Action, the team completed the impact evaluations of the productive inclusion packages in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mauritania, and Senegal (for which the analysis also focused on longer term impacts). The results demonstrated the effectiveness of productive inclusion measures directed at women and implemented as part of national safety net programs in the Sahel region. In addition to the impacts on productivity and resilience, programs improved attitudes toward gender roles, leading to more positive perceptions of women's economic participation, and women beneficiaries reported having greater decision making power over their resources. The findings were published in a series of technical papers and disseminated in Burkina Faso and Senegal. During FY24, the team initiated a series of analyses to discern the characteristics of women and households that benefit most from different types of packages, the pathways toward long term impacts, the effects on resilience, and the mechanisms behind the impact of psychosocial components. During FY24, the team also designed a study to understand the impact of productive inclusion programs on the local economy and on markets, a critical element of advocacy for these programs. For this analysis, market and household data collection started in Senegal, leveraging the randomized national roll out from 2021.

**In FY25, the team plans to complete the analysis of impacts on different groups and contexts, undertake preliminary analyses of impacts on climate resilience and the local economy, and prepare for an evaluation in Chad.** In addition to disseminating impact evaluation results in Chad and Mauritania, preparing a policy note on all regional results, and publishing all related datasets, the team will finalize the analysis of how different beneficiary subgroups are affected by productive inclusion programs. The findings will be summarized in a technical paper, which will help governments refine targeting and roll out strategies in the region for maximum impact on poor and vulnerable populations. Moreover, we will finalize the analysis of the effectiveness of productive inclusion programs

in fostering climate resilience at household and community levels, using existing survey and satellite data and summarizing the results in a policy note. The team will also collect data and analyze the impacts of the scale up on the local economy in Senegal. Finally, recognizing the importance of displacement in the region, the team will support the design of an impact evaluation in Chad to examine the impact on refugees and host communities, which will inform the suitability of such programs in complex humanitarian settings.

## COMPONENT 2:

### *Operational learning and implementation lessons*

**In FY24, the team synthesized and disseminated key operational lessons from implementing productive inclusion programs through government systems.** This work built on insights from the technical workshop organized in Dakar in November 2022, which gathered government representatives, technical teams, and development partners. A series of operational notes was published, including lessons on group sensitization; aspirations and social norms; coaching; facilitation of savings groups; micro entrepreneurship training; productive grants; how to ensure active and inclusive participation; and recruitment, training, and coordination. The team also prepared a note on operational lessons, focusing on the national expansion of the Yokk Koom Koom program in Senegal. The team produced a presentation on lessons learned on coaching from the scale up in Chad and a presentation on operational lessons learned on implementing productive inclusion in fragile

contexts. Finally, the team published a technical package of program material directed at women during the first phase, which can be used by practitioners in the region and beyond. These operational lessons have already guided more recent initiatives to establish or expand programs in the region. In addition to these technical outputs, the team prepared a policy note to articulate a vision for the expansion of economic inclusion in the Sahel, which will be published in FY25. This note aims to guide governments on the “why,” “how,” and trade offs involved. It describes the compelling reasons to expand programs further, the challenges and opportunities in using economic inclusion measures as an exit strategy from safety nets, and the financial trade offs that may exist between expanding economic inclusion, broadening safety net coverage, extending program duration, and implementing other accompanying measures (see Box 7).

**In FY25, the team will focus on finalizing and disseminating key operational guidance.** This includes preparing a guidance note on implementing productive inclusion in fragile contexts, based on experience in Chad, Mali, and Burkina Faso. The team will also organize a workshop in Chad to gather lessons from the program expansion in the country and potentially synthesize lessons in an operational note. The team will exploit regional learning events and workshops to disseminate further lessons learned from expanding programs across the region, discuss implications for the future of safety nets, and create momentum for the adoption of best practices.





## BOX 7 ECONOMIC INCLUSION PROGRAMS—PATHWAYS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXPANSION

Impact evaluations have demonstrated that productive measures integrated into national ASP systems are effective, leading to transformational effects on several economic indicators for its female beneficiaries and their households. Informed by the evidence generated under this pillar and operational lessons, countries have decided to extend productive inclusion measures across the Sahel, planning to reach 400,000 households (from the current 53,700 beneficiary households).

The evolution of economic inclusion interventions has been shaped by various factors, such as geography, target populations, and the specific institutional and financial frameworks in which they operate. Diversity has been a defining feature of these programs since their inception and remains a key aspect of their expansion efforts. Despite the variations, several common trends have emerged. Drawing on the insights of the Partnership for Economic Inclusion's State of Economic Inclusion Report 2024, four key dimensions need to be considered during the expansion, tailored to the political economic contexts, as well as fiscal and demographic considerations.

1. Coverage extension (*who and where*): This dimension refers to the expansion of the program's reach in terms of the number of households served and the geographical areas covered.
2. Functional Extension (*what*): This dimension focuses on evaluating and refining the components of economic inclusion programs to serve specific population groups better, such as women, refugees, host communities, youth, or people with disabilities.
3. Coordination and implementation at scale (*how*): This dimension pertains to expanding the program's coordination capacity across different governance levels and partnerships, as well as deciding on the optimal extent of externalization.
4. Policy, broader strategies, and financing (*why*): This dimension involves developing a robust justification of the program, along with strategic and structural support, such as a well-established institutional and legal framework as well as the mobilization of government resources. Institutionalization through policy related strategies will be crucial for programs' sustainability beyond the immediate operational successes.





**COMPONENT 3:***Policy dialogue, dissemination, and just-in-time technical assistance*

**In FY24, this component focused on disseminating results and providing technical assistance to governments, including improving the climate focus of interventions.** The

team supported the organization of public learning events, in collaboration with the Partnership for Economic Inclusion or the Development Impact Evaluation Department, to present lessons learned on implementing the coaching activity in Chad and lessons on implementation in fragile contexts in Chad and Burkina Faso. The team also provided technical support to governments as they expanded their interventions and shaped their vision. This support contributed to the design of Chad's new Adaptive and Productive Safety Net project, strategically placing productive inclusion at the heart of its safety net. It informed the integration of economic inclusion into Mauritania's Tekavoul decree. It also broadened the scope of economic inclusion efforts to encompass not only households transitioning out of the regular safety net program but also those within refugee and host communities. Furthermore, this assistance underpinned the program's expansion plans in Senegal, as well as the development of targeted action plans aimed at bolstering the climate resilience of these programs in Senegal and Mauritania. A similar action plan is being formulated for Chad. To ensure sustained capacity, this component also focused on consolidating the expertise developed during

the first phase, training new consultants, and offering hands on support as needed. Finally, the component recruited a consultant specialized in climate smart programming, with support from FCDO, to ensure productive inclusion plays its full role in increasing adaptation to climate change in the Sahel.

**In FY25, the team will continue providing technical assistance to countries as they tailor and refine their productive inclusion packages and disseminate key products, in addition to the new activity focused on integrating climate considerations in the programs.**

Capitalizing on recent advances in operations and knowledge in the region and globally, this component will support countries as they adapt interventions to the needs of various subgroups, including women, refugees, and host communities. This will involve providing technical assistance to Chad, Senegal, and Mauritania, focusing on refugees, urban populations, and households graduating from safety nets, respectively. It will also discuss implementation strategies for fragile contexts in Burkina, Chad, Mali, and potentially Niger. Furthermore, with support from FCDO, the team will support incorporating climate adaptation elements into interventions. This will entail developing a guidance note on productive inclusion and climate linkages, as well as providing technical assistance to support embedding climate adaptation elements in the design and implementation of productive inclusion programs (tentatively starting with Senegal, Chad, and Mauritania).



TABLE 3

## Summary activities and outputs for Productive Inclusion and Women Empowerment Pillar

COMPONENT	FY24 ACTUAL ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS	FY25 PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS
<b>COMPONENT 1:</b> Multi-country impact evaluation on the effectiveness of productive inclusion packages	Published impact evaluation results from Chad, Mauritania, and Burkina Faso, as well as results on short-and long-term impacts in Senegal. Disseminated results in Senegal and Burkina Faso.	Disseminate impact evaluation results in Chad and Mauritania. Prepare a policy note on economic inclusion impacts in the Sahel. File datasets from all countries in World Bank micro catalog.
		Prepare a technical paper on customizing packages to cater to the needs of different beneficiary subgroups.
		Prepare a technical paper on the impact of programs on climate resilience.
	Developed a methodology to evaluate the impacts on local economy and markets (spillover effects) in Senegal.	Collect data and prepare preliminary estimates of the impacts on the local economy in Senegal.
		Design an impact evaluation for humanitarian contexts in Chad.
<b>COMPONENT 2:</b> Operational learning and implementation lessons	Published notes on operational lessons on implementing productive inclusion programs in the Sahel.	Disseminate lessons of program expansion and its implications for the future of safety nets.
	Drafted a note on operational lessons from the Senegal program.	Finalize and disseminate the note.
	Contributed to a webinar on lessons on the coaching component from Chad and on operational lessons on implementing productive inclusion in fragile contexts.	Prepare a guidance note on implementing productive inclusion in fragile contexts.
	Published a technical package of program material.	
	Prepared a policy note on pathways and opportunities for expanding economic inclusion in the Sahel and provided guidance on the “why,” “how,” and the trade offs involved.	Publish and disseminate the note.
<b>COMPONENT 3:</b> Policy dialogue, dissemination, and just-in-time technical assistance	Provided technical assistance for expanding programs in Senegal and Chad and for the development of future expansion strategies.	Continue to provide technical assistance to all countries.
	Disseminated outputs from components 1 and 2.	Continue dissemination.
		Develop a guidance note on productive inclusion and climate linkages (with STAAR/FCDO support). Provide technical assistance to Senegal, Chad, Mauritania, and Mali on the inclusion of climate linkages into productive packages.

### 3.4 PILLAR D: FRAGILITY AND FORCED DISPLACEMENT

This thematic pillar aims to support governments' social protection programs and systems in navigating fragility and forced displacement in the Sahel. Four of the six Sahel countries are considered fragile and are included on the World Bank FCV list, while all six host refugees or IDPs. Implementing ASP in contexts of fragility and conflict poses operational challenges and requires tailored approaches. Conflict, forced displacement, and internal mobility also affect the potential impact of interventions. This thematic pillar aims to enhance our understanding of the role and impact of social protection in addressing the drivers of fragility, develop operational solutions for FCV contexts and forcibly displaced or migrant populations, and improve coordination between humanitarian and development actors.

This thematic pillar is organized around four pillars. One of the pillars added in FY23—expected to focus on making operations fit for forced displacement—was subsequently dropped, given the rise in analysis and lessons on this topic from other partners and within the World Bank. In its place, SASPP organized a series of sessions to ensure global lessons are distilled for the Sahel. The remaining four pillars are:

**1. A theory of change from social protection to peace:**

This component seeks to understand whether and how ASP programs can address the drivers of fragility and forced displacement.

**2. Adapting ASP programs and systems to delivery in FCV:**

This component seeks to identify and develop operational options and strategies to adapt the delivery of ASP programs and systems in insecure and FCV contexts.

**3. Humanitarian assistance and national social protection linkages:**

This component focuses on identifying options for aligning national social protection programs with humanitarian programs in the Sahel.

**4. Adapting design and implementation to population mobility:**

This component seeks to identify options to adapt the design and implementation of ASP programs to mobile individuals/populations to ensure their inclusion and maximize the relevance and impact of programs to their needs.

#### COMPONENT 1:

*A theory of change from social protection to peace*

In FY24, the team completed the qualitative analysis of the economic, social, and political impacts of safety net programs in Burkina Faso and Cameroon. Building on nearly 400 interviews with beneficiaries, non beneficiaries, and community leaders across areas with varied levels of insecurity, the analysis aimed at understanding the role safety net programs play in FCV contexts along three dimensions: economic and material impacts, impacts on social cohesion within the community, and state citizen relations. The report finds that while immediate short term consumption support is achievable in FCV contexts, impacts on resilience require sustained investments and remain partly linked to security conditions. It also emphasizes the importance of maintaining safety nets in FCV contexts, as they improve consumption and can foster community relations and trust in the state. In addition to a World Bank Social Protection and Jobs Discussions paper, the team is finalizing a policy note on implications for safety net programs in FCV contexts.

In FY24, the team undertook a literature review on the impacts of safety net programs on the economic well being of beneficiaries, social cohesion, and conflict in FCV settings. Covering quantitative and qualitative analysis published between 2010 and 2024, the review compiled the main theories and evidence on the causal links between safety net programs and economic (well being), social (social cohesion), and political (conflict) outcomes. Bringing the limited evidence together can help guide the adaptation of future programs to FCV contexts and identify relevant areas for future analysis.

During FY25, the team will finalize and disseminate the outputs of this component. The findings from these two pieces will also be used as a basis for technical assistance to the teams supporting the design and implementation of safety net programs in FCV contexts.

During FY25, the team will finalize and disseminate the outputs of this component. The findings from these two pieces will also be used as a basis for technical assistance to the teams supporting the design and implementation of safety net programs in FCV contexts.

#### COMPONENT 2:

*Adapting ASP programs/systems to delivery in fragility, conflict, and violence*

During FY24, the team advanced in developing a guidebook on ASP operations in FCV contexts in collaboration with the World Bank FCV group. Building on the case studies initiated



in FY23 and technical discussions with social protection and jobs (SPJ) teams and colleagues from other Global Practices (GPs), the team prepared a draft of the forthcoming guidebook on ASP operations in FCV contexts. A learning series launched for World Bank colleagues working in FCV in Africa, with sessions covering technical and operational topics, such as targeting and third party implementation, further informed the drafting. The team also provided technical assistance to

the Mali team, building on the Mali case study conducted in FY23, identifying options for the national safety net program to respond to increasing fragility and insecurity (**Box 8**).

**In FY25, the team will finalize the guidebook on ASP operations in FCV contexts.** The team will also disseminate the guidebook and provide technical assistance on adapting programs to FCV contexts as needed.

## BOX 8 ADAPTING OPERATIONS TO FRAGILITY AND INSECURITY

Fragility, conflict, and violence present critical challenges to the effective delivery of ASP programs, including insecurity and unpredictability, political instability, scarce financial resources, and escalated operational risks and costs. As a result, adapting the design, delivery, and implementation of safety nets to FCV is paramount to ensuring continuous delivery of safety net programs. This box illustrates the types of adaptation adopted in Mali and Burkina Faso.

The Jigisemejiri safety net program adjusted its payment mechanisms in Mali to respond to escalating security threats in its central and northern regions. Initially, commercial banks and mobile money operators manually made cash transfers. As worsening security rendered some areas too risky or inaccessible to service providers, the program pivoted to digital payments. In Koulikoro, Mopti, and Timbuktu, the cash out modality was mobile money, initially through one operator (Orange Money). Digital payments reduced risks for beneficiaries, as shorter travels to payment sites and waiting times minimized crowding and enhanced security. Beneficiaries also reported feeling safer withdrawing cash in more secure urban locations. However, the digital approach faced challenges, as coverage gaps remained and jihadist attacks at times destroyed local infrastructure, disrupting services. In areas with no permanent presence from the operator, the program relied on more costly itinerant payment units. The Jigisemejiri program also diversified its payment providers, engaging smaller operators like Sama Money, Wizzal, and Tellia, which offered broad local coverage and enabled delivery under challenging conditions.

In Burkina Faso, the social registry deployment strategy was adapted to the security situation, limiting access to a large part of the national territory, where needs are typically most acute. The RSU developed a protocol specifically for the social registry's deployment in these hard to reach and insecure areas: The delegation of the registry's deployment to humanitarian actors and United Nations agencies, with the stipulation that the established manual, tools, and guidelines are strictly followed. In addition to the opportunities for geographic expansion, this collaboration has contributed to building trust in the registry among future users from humanitarian and social protection agencies. Discussions to apply the protocol are currently in advanced stages with WFP and UNICEF.

**COMPONENT 3:***Humanitarian assistance and national social protection linkages*

**This component was completed in FY24, with the preparation of a policy note synthesizing the recommendations from the flagship report published in FY23.** The policy note highlights five key recommendations on establishing linkages between humanitarian assistance and national social protection systems: (1) prioritize convergence and make it an explicit goal to avoid funding parallel systems, (2) be mindful of the political economy and develop common ground to overcome hard wired barriers to convergence, (3) acknowledge and address the sensitivities when institutional interests create barriers, (4) focus on missed opportunities and join forces to increase available resources, and (5) be prepared for the long haul. The findings from this analysis are regularly used to inform the ongoing collaboration between UNICEF, WFP and SASPP in the Sahel, the Sahel Alliance joint initiative on ASP, and broader collaboration efforts discussed in section 2.3 above.

**COMPONENT 4:***Adapting design and implementation to population mobility*

**In FY24, the team launched the key activities of this component.** The first activity focused on analyzing the scale, forms, and features of internal population movements in the Sahel. This analysis points to the different needs and vulnerabilities of mobile populations. It also highlights the potential role ASP programs could play in addressing some of the various groups' vulnerabilities. A second activity involved reviewing the features of social protection programs that make them responsive to and supportive of internal population movements. This review drew on global best practices around a range of programs, including safety net programs, economic inclusion, labor intensive public works, and youth employment/skills training. Based on this review, the team developed a tool to assess the mobility sensitivity of ASP programs, with initial application to three ASP programs in the Sahel.

**In FY25, the team will prepare guidance on options to ensure ASP programs are positioned to provide support to mobile population groups as relevant.** The guidance note will propose a menu of reform measures to help overcome design and implementation challenges that mobile populations face in benefitting from ASP programs in the Sahel, distinguishing between quick wins that can be achieved with simple adjustments and more structural reforms. This will be informed by the specific challenges and features of internal population mobility in the Sahel. The team will prepare a policy, drawing the main lessons from the analysis of population movements and programming and implementation guidance.



TABLE 4

## Summary activities and outputs for Fragility and Forced Displacement Pillar

COMPONENT	FY24 ACTUAL ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS	FY25 PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS
<b>COMPONENT 1:</b> <b>A theory of change from social protection to peace</b>	Drafted a report on safety nets in contexts of violence, fragility, and forced displacement: the case of Burkina Faso and Cameroon, to be published as a World Bank Social Protection and Jobs Discussion Paper.	Finalize report and prepare a policy note on operational lessons from Burkina Faso and Cameroon for the implementation in FCV contexts.
	Reviewed theories and evidence on the impact of safety net programs on economic outcomes, social cohesion, and conflict in FCV contexts and drafted a technical note.	Finalize and disseminate the technical note.
<b>COMPONENT 2:</b> <b>Adapting ASP programs and systems to delivery in fragility, conflict, and violence (FCV)</b>	Drafted the operational guidebook on ASP in FCV contexts.	Publish and disseminate the operational guidebook on ASP in FCV contexts.
	Conducted knowledge series on ASP implementation in FCV contexts.	Provide support to teams implementing in FCV contexts.
<b>COMPONENT 3:</b> <b>Humanitarian assistance and national social protection linkages</b>	Published a policy note on achieving convergence in the Sahel by linking humanitarian assistance and national social protection systems.  Provided input to the ongoing collaboration with WFP and UNICEF and to the Sahel Alliance special initiative on ASP.	
<b>COMPONENT 4:</b> <b>Adapting design and implementation to Population Mobility</b>	Drafted a note on features of ASP programs that make them responsive to internal population movements.  Developed and tested the tool to assess the mobility sensitivity of ASP programs.  Analyzed the scale, forms, and features of internal population movements in the Sahel, which are relevant to social protection programming.	Finalize a guidance note with a menu of reform measures to make ASP responsive to population mobility in the Sahel, and associate policy note.



### 3.5 PILLAR E: ADAPTIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION AND HUMAN CAPITAL

This pillar is dedicated to enhancing and tailoring social safety net programs to strengthen their contribution to human capital development. Investing in human capital is crucial in fostering climate resilience among communities. Safety net programs are particularly effective in reaching the poorest and most vulnerable households, who typically face the most significant challenges in human capital development. Understanding how to strengthen human capital through ASP systems in the Sahel is essential to ensure that ASP not only provides consumption support but also empowers households to break the intergenerational transmission of poverty. This is key to increasing the productivity of future generations and strengthening their resilience to climate related and other shocks. In the Sahel, many safety net programs combine transfers with accompanying measures. This pillar seeks to strengthen the human capital benefits derived from accompanying measures and explore new approaches that can augment and link social safety nets to cross sectoral initiatives.

The pillar is structured around three components:

- 1. Linkages between climate shocks and human capital in the Sahel:** This component investigates the effect of climate shocks on human capital outcomes, emphasizing the first five years of life and identifying opportunities to mitigate these impacts through social safety net programs.
- 2. Strengthening investments in human capital in a shock prone environment:** This component seeks to inform the design of more effective human capital interventions in the Sahel.
- 3. Protecting existing investments in human capital in a shock prone environment:** This component focuses on gathering evidence on the timing of interventions in ASP systems to determine the most effective ways to safeguard existing human capital in the event of climate shocks.

#### COMPONENT 1:

*Linkages between climate shocks and human capital in the Sahel*

**In FY24, the team finalized research on early childhood development conducted in FY23 and launched an analysis on the link between climate shocks and human capital.**

Building on research from FY22 on the impact of shocks on human capital outcomes at different life stages, the early childhood development research conducted in FY23 and finalized in FY24 focused on early childhood development and how it can be strengthened through safety net accompanying measures. The evidence generated can support operational teams in revising the content and implementation of human capital accompanying measures focused on children and women, particularly in settings where they have had limited or no positive impact on early childhood development outcomes. During FY24, the team also started a study on the association between climate shocks and human capital outcomes, particularly health outcomes for children and women (joint with the poverty and vulnerability pillar), to be finalized in FY25.

**In FY24, the team further disseminated previous knowledge products.** They published a blog detailing the importance of cleaner cooking efforts in protecting human capital, especially for women and children, and the value of cross sectoral efforts in supporting cleaner cooking efforts. The findings were presented at the Annual Conference of the International Association for Impact Assessment in April 2024, while the team presented its thinking around the design of the community based mental health intervention at FHI 360's Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Symposium in April 2024 and at a global mental health mentoring fellowship ([gmhCONNECT](#) program) in June 2024.

**In FY25, the team will continue to disseminate key findings to operational teams across the Bank and support ASP country operational teams in designing or modifying human capital accompanying measures to enhance their impact on human capital outcomes.** The first component's purpose was to identify evidence and generate ideas for interventions to be tested under components 2 and 3. As these measures have now been defined, no further work will be conducted under the first component in FY25 other than finalizing the work on climate shocks.

**COMPONENT 2:*****Strengthening investments in human capital in a shock-prone environment.***

In FY24, activities centered around translating earlier research into cross sectoral collaborations. Three pilots were identified and designed for interventions the team aims to pilot in FY25.

**First, the team prepared a pilot of the “Self Help Plus” mental health program to bolster parental resilience, thereby improving early childhood outcomes in Senegal.**

This pilot is based on the FY23 review of mental health and psychological measures. “Self Help Plus” is a group

based program that educates beneficiaries about stress management and can be delivered by trained lay persons or community workers. Within similar contexts, this program was associated with reductions in psychological distress. Leveraging resources from the World Bank’s Early Learning Partnership Trust Fund, the team developed this intervention in collaboration with experts from Georgetown University, George Washington University, and Cheikh Anta Diop University; the Senegal safety net program implementation unit; and the World Bank health team. In FY24, the team completed a qualitative study assessing mental health needs and acceptability of the program among potential program beneficiaries, service providers, and community members (see Box 9).

**BOX 9 COMMUNITY BASED MENTAL HEALTH INTERVENTION “SELF HELP PLUS”**

Frequent and severe climate shocks worsen mental health and negatively impact human capital development in the Sahel. A one degree Celsius rise in temperature is linked with a 21 percent increased risk of anxiety disorder, exacerbating the negative effects of poverty, conflict, displacement, and violence on mental health outcomes. Furthermore, as mental health status can be both a determinant and an outcome of poverty, mental health interventions have the promise to improve the effectiveness of ASP programs. Meanwhile, mental health is severely undertreated in low- and middle income countries (LMICs). In Africa, the median number of mental health workers is 1.6 per 100,000 people.

SASPP launched a pilot in Senegal to explore how mental health interventions can be integrated into social protection programming to improve stress management among adults. The pilot will (i) integrate a preventative stress management program into the existing national safety net program, (ii) leverage targeting of social safety net programs to reach the most vulnerable households who are usually underserved, and (iii) use existing community delivery mechanisms through community workers. The WHO developed “Self Help Plus” intervention was selected. The program educates individuals with mild/moderate levels of stress on increasing resilience, stress management, and coping strategies. It consists of three activities across five sessions that laypeople can facilitate: listening to pre recorded audio content about stress management, class exercises to apply skills learned, and small group discussions. In similar settings (for example, Uganda), participants reported a sustained reduction in psychological distress.

The team undertook qualitative work in urban and rural areas to support adapting the “Self Help Plus” program to the Senegalese context. It revealed the following examples of situations that cause psychological difficulties: family relationships (divorce, death, rejection by family, domestic violence), socio economic difficulties (job loss, poverty, economic shocks), the concept of having “failed in life” (failed to live up to expectations), postnatal depression, and spiritual causes. Consequently, the “Self Help Plus” program may be especially beneficial for women, who are disproportionately impacted by some of these circumstances.

**Second, in FY24, the team supported revisions to the content and delivery of accompanying measures in Senegal and Chad.**

In Senegal, an educational curriculum for the accompanying measures was developed and key messages were identified and finalized. The team is also providing technical assistance on early childhood development (a process evaluation was planned in Niger but was canceled in light of the disbursement suspension). The team is also liaising closely with the expert supporting revising the content and delivery mechanisms of the Burkina Faso accompanying measures. Finally, the team initiated a cross sectoral cleaner cooking initiative with the World

Bank Energy Global Practice (GP) (see Box 10). Building on research conducted in FY22, which identified household air pollution from solid cooking fuels as an important determinant of child undernutrition and women's health in the Sahel, the initiative focuses on adding behavioral messaging on clean cooking as part of the accompanying measures. This initiative leverages safety nets' ability to encourage behavioral change among the poorest and technical expertise on cleaner cooking and climate change resilience. The team recently obtained funding to pilot this initiative through the Japanese Social Development Fund.

### **BOX 10 CLEANER COOKING INITIATIVE IN CHAD TO IMPROVE GENDER OUTCOMES AND MITIGATE CLIMATE CHANGE**

In Chad, a cross sectoral pilot is being launched to promote adopting cleaner cooking methods, capitalizing on existing initiatives in social protection and energy. Traditional cookstoves are known to contribute to harmful indoor air pollution and environmental degradation and pose safety risks for vulnerable populations, particularly women, who often travel long distances to gather wood and spend more time in polluted environments. To date, cleaner cooking has not been integrated into social protection programs in the region. Concurrently, energy focused programs that promote cleaner cookstoves have struggled to change household cooking habits. This innovative collaboration aims to tackle the multifaceted challenge of cleaner cooking by engaging multiple sectors, thereby enhancing the prospects for a sustainable and comprehensive solution.

The pilot will leverage social protection programs' comparative advantage in reaching and encouraging behavioral change among the most vulnerable women and the technical knowledge of clean cooking and environmental practices from an ongoing World Bank supported energy project. In close collaboration with the energy team, the pilot will identify and address technological, financial, and behavioral obstacles to adopting cleaner cooking practices in Chadian households and schools. The initiative will develop and implement social and behavioral change interventions for cleaner cooking that will be delivered through the recently approved Chad Adaptive and Productive Safety Nets project. Moreover, 40 schools in refugee areas and host communities will be equipped with cleaner cookstoves, fostering community engagement and establishing demonstration sites to enhance awareness and support.





**Third, in FY24, the team established a cross sectoral collaboration with the World Bank Health, Nutrition, and Population GP to support the distribution of small quantity lipid based nutrients through safety net programs in Burkina Faso.** Children can use these food based supplements to prevent growth faltering and undernutrition. This activity builds on research conducted in FY22, which examined avenues for incorporating these supplements' distribution activities into safety net programs and how to maximize program impact on childhood undernutrition, early childhood development, and human capital. The aim is to leverage lessons learned and innovative delivery mechanisms to converge services from the social protection and health sectors, expanding the reach of behavior change activities and strengthening their impact on child nutrition.

**In FY25, the team will focus on implementing these various pilots in these three areas.** For the "Self Help Plus" in Senegal, priorities include conducting an expert review of program material and its translations, training trainers and community workers, implementing a mixed methods baseline survey, and rolling out the intervention in selected areas. Two follow up surveys are planned to detect short- and medium term results. In addition to the pilot, the team will assess several psychological constructs (stress, depression, anxiety, resilience, and psychological flexibility), providing lessons on strengthening mental resilience to climate and other shocks and integrating mental resilience packages into accompanying measures. For the broader revision of Senegal's accompanying measures, the team will focus on developing the tools for implementation in FY25. For the Chad cleaner cooking initiative, the team will focus on the design and implementation of social behavioral change communication on cleaner cooking for households who will benefit from the forthcoming program (a second component will equip at least 40 schools in refugee areas and host communities), leveraging diagnostics and cleaner cooking solutions planned under

the Chad Energy Access Scale Up Project (P174495). Finally, in FY25, the team plans to design and pilot the initiative to distribute small quantity lipid based nutrient supplements in Burkina Faso. The results would inform future health, nutrition, and population sector (HNP) and SPJ activities in Burkina Faso and beyond.

### **COMPONENT 3:**

#### *Protecting existing investments in human capital in a shock-prone environment*

**In FY24, the team initiated the development of a concise knowledge product for operational teams to design or modify human capital accompanying measures to enhance their impact.** This activity builds on the work conducted under the first two components in FY22 and FY23. This knowledge product outlines evidence based approaches, best practices, and lessons learned from effective programs in the Sahel and similar regions. It will highlight themes, implementation strategies, and innovative practices that can be implemented as human capital accompanying measures. The team will finalize the knowledge product in FY25.

**In FY25, in collaboration with the climate shock response delivery systems pillar, the team will study the effect of the timing of interventions on human capital accumulation and preservation.** Building on the impact evaluations presented under component 4 of Pillar B, the team will use the information on food consumption for children (in Niger) and anthropometric measures (in Mauritania) to uncover this effect. These will be supplemented by qualitative analysis in Mauritania to understand how the timing of transfers affects household consumption and women's control over household resources and the potential implications for women's empowerment and childhood human capital.



TABLE 5

## Summary activities and outputs for Adaptive Social Protection and Human Capital Pillar

COMPONENT	FY24 ACTUAL ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS	FY25 PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS
<b>COMPONENT 1:</b> <b>Linkages between climate shocks and human capital in the Sahel</b>	Disseminated findings of the analysis on intergenerational impacts of parental stress on early childhood development (used to design interventions under Component 2).	
	Finalized and published early childhood development research conducted in FY23.	
	Prepared preliminary results on the association between climate shocks and human capital outcomes, particularly child health outcomes (jointly with the pillar on poverty and vulnerability).	Finalize and publish the analysis.
<b>COMPONENT 2:</b> <b>Interventions to strengthen investments in human capital in a shock-prone environment</b>	Undertook a qualitative survey to assess mental health needs among safety net beneficiaries and the feasibility of a pilot program.	Implement and evaluate the “Self-Help Plus” pilot in an urban and a rural locality in Senegal. Prepare a short non-technical paper on the lessons learned from piloting the parental resilience intervention.
	Prepared a pilot intervention aiming to support parental resilience in Senegal.	
	Supported the revision of delivery and content of human capital focused accompanying measures in Senegal.	Continue supporting implementing the revised accompanying measures as needed. Undertake a study on cooking practices and needs in Chad, together with Energy GP.
	Designed a pilot for indoor air pollution in Chad and obtained resources from the Japan Social Development Trust Fund for implementation. Wrote a blog post on collaboration between Energy and Social Protection and Jobs teams to address household air pollution.	
	In collaboration with Health, Nutrition, and Population GP, explored a collaboration to provide nutrient supplements to safety net beneficiaries in Burkina Faso.	Design and implement a pilot.
<b>COMPONENT 3:</b> <b>Protecting existing investments in human capital in a shock-prone environment</b>	Disseminated the findings of a quantitative evaluation of the impact of making women the beneficiaries of safety nets and discussed implications for program design (also under the Mali country section).	
	Started developing a knowledge product that can support operational teams in the design or adaptation of human capital accompanying measures.	Finalize the knowledge product on operational lessons for the design of human capital accompanying measures.
		Assess the impact of the timing of interventions on children’s human capital through a child-specific analysis of food consumption in Niger and anthropometric and other child specific variables in Mauritania.  Conduct qualitative work in Mauritania to understand how the timing of transfers affects household consumption and women’s control over household resources and the potential implications for women’s empowerment and childhood human capital.



# 4

## SASPP COUNTRY ACTIVITIES: FY24 ACHIEVEMENTS AND FY25 PLANS

Over the past few years, despite increasing fragility in the region, countries in the Sahel have made significant progress in strengthening the building blocks of their ASP system. This section provides a comprehensive overview of SASPP country level activities deployed to support progress along the four building blocks. In FY24, SASPP continued to provide support to countries by combining significant investments through projects (implemented by government agencies through recipient executed grants, see Tables 12 and 14 in Appendix 2) with tailored analytical and technical assistance (implemented through the Bank executed grants detailed in Table 16 in Appendix 2). The increasingly fragile regional context has impacted operations across several countries, leading to some delays in implementation during FY24. Sections 4.1 on Burkina Faso and 4.5 on Niger provide additional details on the operational difficulties experienced during FY24 and highlight the efforts deployed throughout the region to adapt approaches to increasingly fragile contexts by ensuring more flexibility in the delivery of programs and the deployment of systems (see also Box 8 presented earlier in section 3.4). Overall, the challenges of delivering social protection efficiently in fragile contexts point to the importance of developing strong systems that can withstand shocks and crises. Hence, the systems building agenda adopted by SASPP to expand the reach and coverage of the program is also critical to delivery in fragile contexts. Strong institutions and systems are essential for ensuring continuous delivery and strong governance during complex periods. This section presents a detailed summary of activities undertaken in FY24, the progress achieved in each country, and the plans for FY25.

### 4.1 BURKINA FASO

#### ASP World Bank Engagement in Burkina Faso

During FY24, the Social Safety Net Project (P124015), approved in FY14 and closed in June 2024, was the main platform for the dialogue on ASP in Burkina Faso. The project aimed to support the establishment of the building blocks of an adaptive safety net system and increase access to social safety nets for poor and vulnerable households through regular and shock responsive interventions and productive inclusion activities. Initially, the project received a US\$50 million IDA allocation and a US\$6 million contribution from the SASPP MDTF. In FY19, the project was significantly expanded with additional financing of US\$110 million, comprising US\$100 million from IDA and US\$10 million from the SASPP MDTF, to scale up shock response programs and respond to refugee needs. In May 2022, the SASPP MDTF contributed an additional US\$30 million, bringing the overall funding to US\$196 million. This additional financing aimed to strengthen the government's safety net response to the cumulative impacts of COVID 19, climate, and conflict induced shocks affecting the well being of poor households in Burkina Faso. It also intended to support system building activities such as the deployment of the social registry. As the Social Safety Net Project closed in June 2024, the team has begun preparing a follow on operation (P178667), which will build on the engagement on ASP to date and continue to implement ASP priorities.





The West Africa Unique Identification for Regional Integration and Inclusion operation (P169594) complements the ASP systems building agenda by supporting the implementation of a unique identifier. In addition, the team coordinates closely with the Finance, Competitiveness, and Innovation (FCI) GP on disaster risk financing and the development of a national payment platform, as well as the Agriculture GP on food insecurity. Key reforms, particularly related to institutionalizing a social registry, have been supported by a series of development policy operations. Finally, the team is collaborating with the IMF, which has included its policy dialogue with the government in establishing and financing the national safety net program, Programme d'appui à l'Autonomisation des Ménages Pauvres et Vulnérables (PAMPV). Other development partners such as the AFD, the European Union (EU), and the German Cooperation have already indicated their intention to align their sector interventions with the PAMPV.

### Changes in ASP context during FY24

During FY24, the security situation in Burkina Faso continued to deteriorate, particularly in the northern and eastern regions, leading to physical and food insecurity as well as displacement. The country experienced significant political volatility. In response, transitional governments increased the mobilization of paramilitaries and enhanced security spending while rejecting dialogue with violent extremist organizations. By the end of 2023, the presence of non state violent extremist organizations has become widespread, and the number of reported fatalities caused by security incidents reached a new peak, totaling 8,494 over the year, according to data from Armed Conflict Location and Event Data (ACLED), with many impoverished and vulnerable areas of the country inaccessible to government implemented service delivery.

Insecurity, inflation, and climate related shocks have contributed to significant food insecurity. According to the results of the Cadre Harmonisé of March 2024, 2.7 million people are projected to be food insecure during the upcoming lean season (June–September 2024). Despite the increasingly challenging humanitarian situation, cash based assistance has been suspended by the government, initially in a few regions in December 2022 and then country wide by the end of 2023. Among the potential motivations for this suspension are the fragmented and often incoherent implementation of programs that provide cash to their beneficiaries by numerous implementing actors, persistent arguments against cash transfers as an intervention modality such as its supposed adverse impacts on labor market participation rates and concerns that transfers could be used to finance illegal activities. This decision also affected the Bank financed Social Safety Net project, impacting around 130,000 beneficiary households of the regular safety net program who received only six to 10 of the planned 12 payments. Since the suspension, an ongoing dialogue at the central level has been initiated to dispel common myths about cash based assistance and improve coordination among actors. An interministerial order establishing common principles, rules, and regulations for cash based programming has been drafted. In the meantime, the government is exploring the possibility of switching the transfer modality to food vouchers, and the team is providing technical support along with humanitarian actors (WFP, Cash Working Group, Oxfam, and so on).

### Key ASP developments and SASPP activities

**The vision for the World Bank's engagement on ASP in Burkina Faso** is to support the country in establishing a coherent and holistic ASP system to strengthen the resilience of at least the poorest 15 percent and effectively respond to covariate shocks, including those related to climate. Priorities include increasing the government's

ownership and capacity to implement and scale up the newly established national safety net program, PAMPV, and strengthening the underlying delivery systems, such as the early warning system (EWS), the national social registry, and a national payments platform. Additionally, long term and predictable financing is crucial to ensure the sustainability and scalability of the ASP system. Given the protracted humanitarian crisis, institutional arrangements, financing, and shock response coordination are key to delivering a timely, efficient, and well coordinated response and operationalizing the humanitarian development nexus.

**Several achievements of FY24 contribute to this long term vision.** The government’s development and subsequent adoption of PAMPV in February 2024 marked a major milestone toward realizing the vision. The social registry was successfully rolled out in two regions, registering 222,974 households, and a roadmap for its national deployment has been prepared, with further scale up in urban areas across the country in progress (see also Box 8 for adaptation to insecurity). Additionally, a reform of the national food security response system was undertaken to enhance coordination and efficiency, as well as to reinforce the government’s leadership in managing the response. This reform is complemented by strengthening the food security fund, Fonds d’Appui à la Sécurité Alimentaire (FASA), which aims to provide sustainable financing for shock responsive social assistance. These activities were carried out in close cooperation with partners, notably WFP and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), in accordance with agreed upon action plans. These accomplishments have set Burkina Faso on the course toward a coherent ASP system despite the political and institutional instability challenges, which have slowed down some activities.

**FY25 will be critical to consolidating recent achievements and demonstrating their impact amidst multiple crises.** With the social registry expected to be deployed to an additional 11 communes across seven regions, the focus will be on boosting its usage to enhance targeting various government and partner interventions, thus improving efficiency and coordination. It will enable users to access data on poverty specific vulnerabilities and the status of refugee, host, and IDP population groups for beneficiary identification. The PAMPV is set to identify 60,000 households through the registry. The PAMPV benefits will depend on the outcomes

of ongoing technical discussions aimed at identifying an alternative to the suspended cash transfers for consumption support and enabling productive safety nets to address chronic and cyclical poverty. More broadly, the dialogue surrounding the new World Bank project is anticipated to promote further implementation of essential ASP elements and the strengthening of the shock responsive institutional environment.

## DETAILED SASPP ACTIVITIES

### *SASPP supported (recipient executed) and IDA projects/Development Policy Operations*

**The Social Safety Net project has greatly benefitted from SASPP support, with grants totaling US\$46 million since 2014.** The latest tranche of US\$30 million, which became effective in May 2022, has played a crucial role in advancing the ASP agenda in Burkina Faso in FY24. They have enabled the provision of shock responsive transfers to 104,052 recipients—all of whom were women—(including 46,272 in the Centre Nord region who received only one of the three planned transfers due to the suspension of cash transfers) in regions experiencing food insecurity during the 2023 lean season. This was achieved through a vertical expansion, targeting some of the 130,000 existing beneficiaries of the IDA supported regular safety net. Additionally, SASPP funding has permitted the provision of economic inclusion measures for 5,571 recipients in FY24. Finally, the significant progress in developing the social registry, including registering more than 280,000 households, and revising the operational manual informed by a series of technical workshops, was made possible with SASPP support.

### **BUILDING BLOCK 1:**

#### **Institutional arrangements and partnerships**

**Under this building block, the most critical activity of FY24 was the reform of the national food security response system.** The reform updated the system, which was established in 2003, by strengthening the coordination in Burkina Faso’s food security response framework.

It is expected to enhance households' resilience to food shocks. It provides a single reference framework and ensures that the food security response reflects the current realities. Improved coordination through the National Food Security Council (CNSA) will limit overlap in interventions and better direct them where they are most needed, thereby contributing to a more equitable provision of support. Efficiency gains can be channeled to additional households, enhancing the scale of the lean season response. The reform process was accompanied by technical assistance to strengthen the leadership of the Executive Secretariat of the CNSA with the ambition to improve the food security response planning, coordination, and monitoring. Support was provided as part of joint action plans with WFP and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and in close collaboration with the Swiss Cooperation to ensure coordination and alignment. SASPP also supported the organization of several planning and lessons learned workshops with all actors involved in the lean season response (government, humanitarian actors, donors) to ensure efficient spatial distribution of aid, align modalities (for example, transfer amounts), and avoid duplication. A national manual documented this process to guide the planning, monitoring, and coordination of the food security response. The team further continued its close collaboration with partners through bi monthly meetings of the Social Protection working group, monthly tripartite meetings with AFD and KfW, monthly meetings of the RSU taskforce, and additional monthly (UNICEF, EU, European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office [ECHO], FAO) or even weekly (WFP) bilateral meetings.

**In FY25, the World Bank will continue providing technical support to the Executive Secretariat of the CNSA to operationalize the manual throughout the different stages of the national food security response' planning cycle.** The team will continue to engage in technical discussions with the CNSA to ensure alignment between the annual response plan and the PAMPV. Although cash transfers have been suspended, preliminary conversations regarding electronic vouchers indicate that the government remains committed to responding to the lean season through the PAMPV, presenting an opportunity to promote ASP principles.

## **BUILDING BLOCK 2:**

### **Programs and delivery systems**

**In FY24, the team provided technical assistance, culminating in the government's adoption of the PAMPV in February 2024.** The reform marks a transformative shift from a fragmented, project based approach to a government led and partner supported national safety net program (see Box 11). The program will improve the coherence and efficiency of the country's national social protection system and increase access to productive social safety nets for poor and vulnerable households. In terms of the delivery system, in collaboration with the CGAP and the Finance, Competitiveness, and Innovation (FCI) GP, the team engaged in a technical dialogue with the Ministry of Finance's treasury department, which is developing an integrated payments platform, providing recommendations to ensure its suitability for the needs of social assistance programs, enabling the provision of government to person payments through a variety of providers to all individuals connected to the platform (bank accounts, micro finance institutions, mobile phones, and mobile wallets). The payments platform is thus set to fulfill the highest standards for the digitization of social protection payments.

**In FY25, the team plans to continue supporting the operationalization of the PAMPV.** Key activities include establishing the program's institutional arrangements; completing the operational manual; and determining the implementation modalities, such as the type of benefits, the geographic deployment, and beneficiary selection. The team will also focus on supporting mobilizing additional resources and ensuring the program's integration into the national food security system (see above). In addition, technical assistance will be provided to explore alternatives to cash transfers, potentially including the creation of an electronic voucher system. Moreover, under the regional CGAP collaboration, the team will continue collaborating with the FCI GP and the Ministry of Finance to set up the national payment platform.

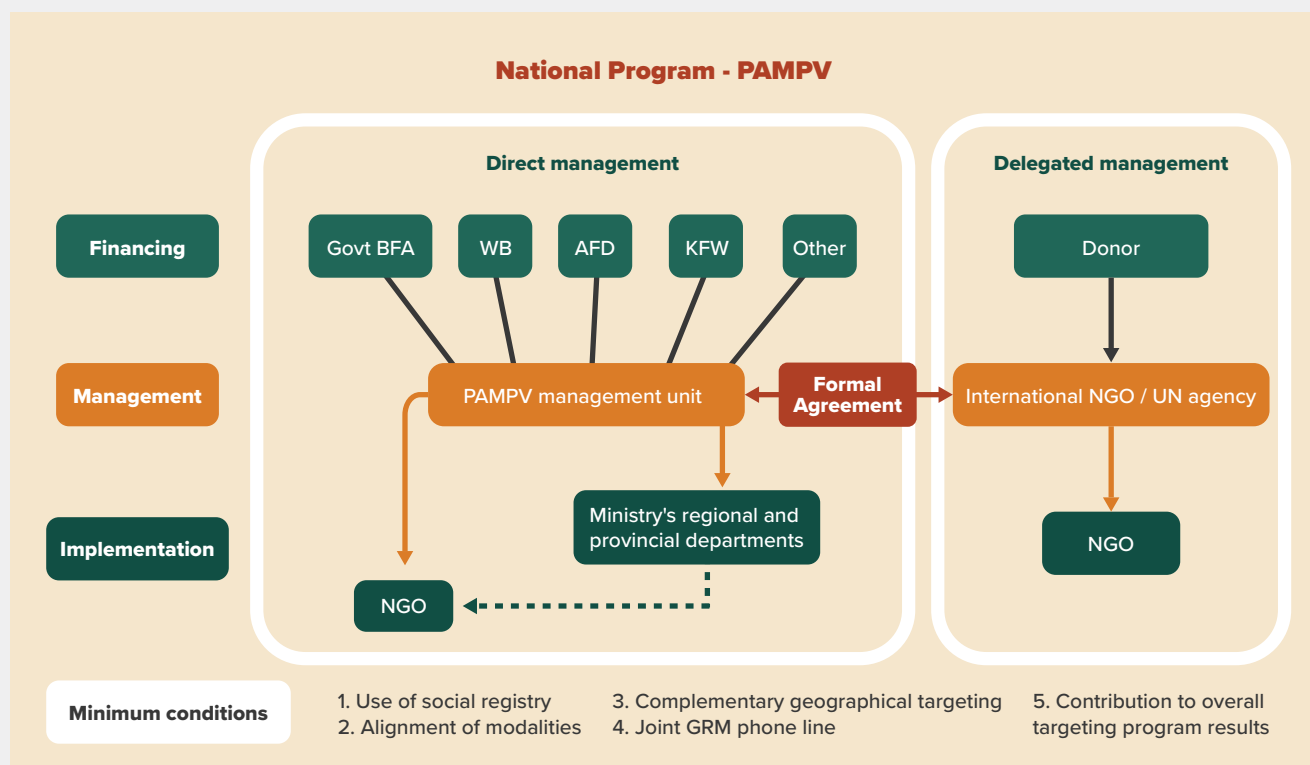


## BOX 11 BURKINA FASO'S NATIONAL PROGRAM—PAMPV

In 2019, there were over 200 distinct social assistance programs, significantly surpassing the regional average of 15 programs per country, each with its own targeting process and modalities. The PAMPV, adopted in February 2024, will serve as a single reference for safety net interventions, standardizing and harmonizing modalities and approaches to maximize coverage and efficiency. Development partners such as the AFD, UNICEF, WFP, and the EU have already committed to aligning their support with the PAMPV's modalities. Furthermore, the government has committed its own resources to expand the PAMPV, aiming to reach 300,000 households over five years.

The PAMPV builds on the experience of 10 years of safety net implementation in Burkina Faso and on international and regional best practices. It includes shock responsive activities, which equip the government to respond in a timely manner to future shocks, including those related to climate change. It also encompasses measures to build human capital and reinforce social cohesion, as well as economic inclusion activities designed to help beneficiaries develop resilient income-generating activities. The program design has benefitted significantly from the knowledge generated with support from SASPP, including the impact evaluation of economic inclusion measures.

Due to the worsening security situation and the need to strengthen the humanitarian development nexus, the government has made provisions for UN organizations and humanitarian actors to implement the PAMPV on behalf of the government in areas beyond its reach. This delegated management option includes a formal agreement that outlines the roles and responsibilities of both parties and ensures the unicity of the program across the territory by aligning modalities such as eligibility criteria and benefit levels to the national standard and using common instruments such as the social registry and the grievance redress phone line.



**BUILDING BLOCK 3:****Finance**

**In FY24, the team provided support to strengthen the FASA institutionally and operationally.** Institutionally, the reform of the food security system (see above) strengthened the role of FASA as the primary channel for financing responses to food security related shocks. On the operational front, the team provided IT equipment to the Executive Secretariat of the CNSA to manage the FASA, complemented by the Swiss Cooperation's procurement of accounting software. The team also supported the development and refinement of FASA's operational, administrative, and financial manuals. During FY24, as discussed under Pillar B, component 3, the team also supported the analysis of the institutional setup for disaster response, as well as a performance review of the drought index used by ARC.

**In FY25, the team will continue to provide technical and financial support to the FASA.** The team will pursue the dialogue with the CNSA and its members, aiming to promote a food security system that closely coordinates and monitors all response modalities, including cash or voucher based interventions. Technical assistance will include strengthening FASA's financial management system, formulating a resource mobilization plan, and enhancing FASA's implementation capacity. The proposed design for the forthcoming World Bank operation includes further technical assistance to the FASA and envisions channeling IDA funds for shock responsive cash transfers through FASA starting in 2026.

**BUILDING BLOCK 4:****Data and information**

**During FY24, the team continued to focus on developing the social registry, a crucial component of Burkina Faso's ASP system.** The registry's implementation saw significant progress, with its deployment in the Centre Est and Centre Ouest regions and the registration of more than 280,000 households. A workshop was organized with all relevant stakeholders, including future social registry users, to gain insights and provide recommendations for the expansion of the registry. This led to the revision of the operational manual and the harmonized questionnaire. In response to the challenges of deploying the registry in certain areas due to security concerns, a protocol for hard to reach and insecure areas was also updated after technical discussions with humanitarian actors and United Nations agencies, with the government expressing a willingness to delegate the social registry's deployment in such areas, provided that the manual, tools, and guidelines are followed. Regarding the EWS, a study was conducted to identify food and nutrition security indicators to be collected at the communal level, aiming to enhance the granularity beyond what is currently used by the Cadre Harmonisé and thereby improve the precision of shock response planning. The list of indicators and the proposed methodology were finalized with the EWS unit, alongside technical trainings for the use of satellite imagery.

**In FY25, the team will continue supporting the expansion of the social registry and the improvements of the EWS.** The team will expand the social registry to 11 additional urban communes, contribute to technical discussions on the integration of IDPs in the registry, and support the interoperability with different beneficiary databases (including Burkinabe Council for Emergency Relief and Rehabilitation [CONASUR]). It will also elaborate the data updating methodology for the social registry. The team will support the endorsement of the finalized list of indicators on the EWS by other data providers (for example, the Nutrition Directorate) and the implementation of the recommendations with funding from the new operation.

TABLE 6

## Summary activities and outputs for SASPP engagement in Burkina Faso

BUILDING BLOCKS	FY24 ACTUAL ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS	FY25 PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS
<b>INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS</b>	Provided support to update the texts governing the national food security system and organized validation workshops.	Support the operationalization of the food security response manual.
	Implemented joint action plans with FAO and WFP with a specific focus on reforming the national food security system.	Continue implementing joint action plans with FAO and WFP with a focus on operationalizing the PAMPV and deploying the social registry.
	Provided support elaborating a draft protocol governing transfers in Burkina Faso.	
	Developed a manual planning, monitoring, and coordinating the food security response.	
	Conducted a study on the 2023 lean season response and organized a workshop on lessons learned.	
<b>PROGRAMS AND DELIVERY SYSTEMS</b>	Provided technical assistance for the finalization and operationalization of the national safety net program PAMPV.	Continue providing technical assistance operationalizing the national safety net program (establish the permanent structure in charge of the program, elaborate the operational manual, design the implementation modality, and so on).
	Presented the results of an economic inclusion package and a safety nets impact evaluations and incorporated main recommendations in the PAMPV operational manual.	Provide capacity building support to a future Safety Net Technical Secretariat.
	Provided technical assistance to the national payment platform design by the Ministry of Finance in collaboration with CGAP and the FCI GP (with support from the PAIF PME project).	In collaboration with FCI GP and CGAP, provide technical assistance to the implementation of the payment platform.
<b>FINANCE</b>	Provided technical assistance to strengthen the FASA and created a sub window dedicated to shock responsive programs.	Continue technical assistance to strengthen the FASA with a focus on operational and financial and administrative capacities.
	Conducted a diagnostic of disaster risk financing and a technical performance review of ARC with CDP, under the regional Pillar B.	
<b>DATA AND INFORMATION</b>	Provided technical assistance to support the social registry's deployment and ensure quality standards were met.	Support the elaboration of a targeting strategy in hard to reach and insecure areas.
	Carried out a series of workshops to identify lessons learned from the pilot deployment of the social registry.	Provide technical assistance to the deployment of the social registry to 11 additional communes.
	Finalized the study on food insecurity and nutrition indicators that the EWS can collect at the communal level.	Validate the list of indicators and support the operationalization of the EWS system.



## 4.2 CHAD

### ASP World Bank Engagement in Chad

The Refugees and Host Communities Support Project (PARCA, P164748), approved in September 2018, serves as the foundation for engagement on the ASP agenda in Chad. With an initial IDA allocation of US\$60 million, the project aims to improve access to basic services, livelihoods, and safety nets for refugees and host communities while also strengthening the country's systems for managing refugees. In 2019, the project received additional financing of US\$81 million, including US\$6 million from the SASPP MDTF, to support more beneficiaries and expand its engagement on the ASP agenda, including productive inclusion activities and the introduction of shock response cash transfers.

In November 2023, the government of Chad requested a new ASP project, which will broaden the scope to the entire national territory and support the development of national delivery systems that can be used by all relevant actors. The Chad Adaptive and Productive Safety Nets Project (P502142) was approved by the World Bank board in June 2024, with a total budget of US\$120 million, including US\$20 million from the SASPP MDTF. The project aims to increase access to social safety nets that encompass a productive package and a shock response component for emergencies such as lean seasons, climate shocks, and refugee influx. It focuses on establishing or strengthening the most important components of the ASP system, including the RSU to support dynamic enrollment and identification of beneficiaries of social assistance programs, a payment platform for rapid and cost effective payment delivery, the food security early warning and response system, the refugee management system, and the government led national safety net program. A short overlap period between operations will ensure continuity while limiting administrative costs.

Other activities within the World Bank and beyond complement the World Bank's ASP support. These include the Japan Social Development Trust Fund, which encourages behavioral change among beneficiaries in coordination with the Chad Energy Access Scale Up Project (P174495), as discussed under Pillar E, component 2. In addition, the Chad Fragility and Resilience Project (P177163) provides support in the east, and the N'djamena Urban Resilience Project (P177044) focuses on urban areas. The team also plans to collaborate with the Chad Digital Transformation Project, currently under preparation, around digital payments. On the analytical front, the human capital review (P177928) emphasized the role of ASP in improving human capital among vulnerable households. Finally, in terms of projects from other development partners, our support is complemented by the RESPECCT project (which replaces the Développement Inclusif des Zones d'Accueil [DIZA] operation) financed by the EU and AFD and focusing on Eastern Chad.

### Changes in ASP context during FY24

**Since April 2021, Chad has been undergoing a political transition marked by uncertainties.** The December 2023 constitutional referendum approved a new constitution and led to the establishment of the institution in charge of organizing the presidential elections. The first round of the presidential elections was held in May 2024, announcing the current transitional president as the winner. There is strong ownership of the ASP agenda by the government, which aims to extend a national safety net program to the entire territory, aiming to support approximately one million Chadians living in extreme poverty, as per the declaration on the political program of the transitional government by the Prime Minister in January 2024. The revised National Social Protection Strategy (NSPS) for 2024–28 has been drafted and incorporates ASP, featuring the development of a national program and social registry.

**In addition, the country is grappling with the impact of instability originating from neighboring countries,** resulting in the presence in April 2024 of more than 1.2 million refugees from Sudan (84 percent), the Central African Republic (12 percent), Nigeria (2 percent), and Cameroon (2 percent), according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). More than half of these refugees have arrived in the Eastern regions since the eruption of the Sudanese conflict in April 2023, adding to the 500,000 forcibly displaced persons already present in the country. The humanitarian needs of refugees, returnees, and host communities are on the rise. Yet, the assistance provided struggles to keep pace with the growing demands, with only US\$151 million secured out of the required funding of US\$455 million for refugee response in 2023 according to the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

**Chad faces one of the highest levels of food insecurity in the world, with an estimated 16 percent of the population expected to be severely food insecure during the 2024 lean season** due to poor agricultural production resulting from drought, according to OCHA. In February 2024, Chad declared a food and nutrition emergency as a result of a combination of poor rainfall during the previous rainy season and significant inflation.

## Key ASP developments and SASPP activities

**Overall, Chad's ASP system is still nascent.** Our objective is to support establishing an adaptive and productive social protection system capable of strengthening the resilience of the poorest 15 percent of the population and protecting them effectively against covariate shocks, especially climate related ones. Our strategy focuses on supporting the government of Chad in shifting from limited, project based interventions to implementing a national safety net program, EWS, social registry, and national payment system, allowing for rapid responses to challenges. Additionally, securing consistent, long term funding is critical for the continued effectiveness of the ASP system. In this context, establishing robust institutional structures, ensuring coordination, and mobilizing funding from humanitarian and development partners are critical. As social protection mechanisms in Chad are still nascent and require sustained

political commitment and support, continuous high level policy dialogue and advocacy are essential at central and local levels.

### **In FY24, several key achievements contributed to the long term objective of strengthening the ASP system in Chad.**

The team supported the review of the NSPS, promoting the inclusion of core ASP principles and instruments, including a national program and the RSU as tools for reinforcing coordination and government leadership. The team supported the government in deploying an ASP shock response intervention to newly arrived Cameroonian refugees. Using ASP systems to address the needs of refugees is an innovative approach in Chad and the region more broadly. Building on this experience, the team also supports the government's response to the influx of refugees in the east. In addition, Chad is pushing toward a digitalized payment system using mobile phones and improvements in the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) system (including the operationalization of a green line). The Bank team is supporting the development of the RSU through technical assistance and a series of regional exchanges. Finally, the World Bank also provided strong institutional support to Chad's EWS institution to reinforce government capacity and leadership in data collection and analysis for crisis response decision making.

### **FY25 will be critical to consolidating the emerging ASP system and scaling up its coverage nationwide.**

The forthcoming Chad Adaptive and Productive Safety Nets Project will provide a strong platform for continued World Bank support. The team will build on a series of evaluations to inform the design of the national safety net program, productive inclusion packages, and associated implementation guidelines, taking into account the specificities of the refugee population. The new project will likely support their implementation. In collaboration with UNICEF and WFP, the team will continue its support of the RSU, including developing its operational manual, setting up a steering committee, and establishing a Management Information System (MIS). The aim is to cover all 23 provinces and serve as the basis for targeting various governmental and partner initiatives. With support from various World Bank projects, the coverage of RSU is expected to reach around 1 million households.

## DETAILED SASPP ACTIVITIES

### ***SASPP supported (recipient executed) and IDA projects/Development Policy Operations***

**As part of the Refugees and Host Communities Support Project (PARCA), SASPP provided US\$6 million to complement the IDA allocation of US\$135 million.** This allocation was critical for advancing the ASP agenda in Chad. The SASPP was positioned to provide support to an anticipated 60,000 Sudanese refugee households through an emergency cash transfer in July 2024. In April 2024, the team contributed to the World Bank 2024 Economic Update through a special chapter titled “Hosting Refugees in an Inclusive Manner,” which offers an in depth analysis of refugees and host communities in eastern and southern Chad and suggests strategies to bolster the economic inclusion of refugees.

In FY25, under PARCA and the new project, SASPP funds will be used to continue strengthening core ASP delivery systems and programs. The project will likely support the RSU platform to implement a clear roadmap for the registry, support the development and implementation of the national social protection program, including productive inclusion and shock response components, support setting up a steering committee, provide technical support related to the MIS, as well as undertake analyses on the ASP financing building block.

### **BUILDING BLOCK 1:**

#### **Institutional arrangements and partnerships**

**In FY24, along with other development partners, the team supported the government to finalize the review of the new NSPS (2024–28).** The strategy includes a national safety net program and the RSU. Workshops were held in August and November 2023, leading to the inclusion of ASP principles in the NSPS, emphasizing the role of a national program and RSU as tools for reinforcing coordination and government leadership. This strategy will provide the national framework necessary for greater coordination of social protection actors. The team also set up a task force with WFP and UNICEF, which meets monthly to (i)

strengthen synergy and efficiency to support national social protection systems better; (ii) strengthen the collaborative framework for a better response to shocks and thus ensure the continuity of social protection interventions throughout emergency, recovery, and development; (iii) strengthen collaboration and coordination on a technical and analytical level for greater effectiveness and efficiency; and (iv) further coordinate support in the definition of social protection policies and strategies as well as their operationalization. In coordination with the UNHCR, the team also facilitated collaboration between the national agency for refugees and returnees (Commission Nationale d'accueil de Réinsertion des Réfugiés) and the national agency in charge of identification documents (Agence Nationale des Titres Sécurisés), leading to the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) allowing the agency to issue secure and recognized identification cards to refugees. As a result, as of April 2024, around 200,000 refugees have their biometric information registered by UNHCR. Finally, SASPP supported the coordination between the government and humanitarian actors in the context of the response to the Sudanese refugee influx, with an anticipated 60,000 households to be supported by the ASP project and SASPP. The team is coordinating this response to the influx of Sudanese refugees and the food emergency crisis with other World Bank projects and partners, such as the UNHCR and non governmental organizations (NGOs).

**In FY25, the World Bank will continue to accompany the government in implementing its social protection strategy.** This support will entail applying ASP principles and enhancing synergies between instruments such as the national program and the RSU. In FY25, key milestones are expected to be achieved, including establishing and operationalizing RSU technical and steering committees and harmonizing parameters of safety net interventions focused on food insecurity with WFP (amount, duration, targeting, timing of interventions). To enhance better inclusion of refugees into the national safety net program and their ability to move, apply for formal employment, and access to productive and financial assets, the team will support the operationalization of the MOU between agencies related to issuing official documents.



**BUILDING BLOCK 2:*****Programs and delivery systems***

In FY24, the team supported the establishment of the national program, as well as improvements in the payment and grievance systems. Support was provided for designing a new productive inclusion package, using results from the qualitative evaluation of the existing packages and research on mechanisms for socio economic integration in four provinces (Box 12). The impact evaluation of the existing package revealed a significant increase in household consumption of non food items and health products, as well as a significant increase in the likelihood of establishing businesses, possessing commercial assets, and enjoying higher incomes. The evaluation also suggested that transfers granted to women may have an even greater effect on household well being. Results of the impact evaluation were disseminated, resulting in increased interest in including such interventions as a core part of the national ASP system. The team also launched a process evaluation of the adaptive cash transfer program to identify options for increased efficiency and impact. In addition, technical support was provided to implement digital payments in partnership with CGAP. As a result, 64 percent of all transfers were financed under PARCA, and more than 90 percent of payments launched in 2024 in the four new provinces were digital. The transition to digital payment has significantly reduced payment delays, with 90 percent of payments made on time. Nevertheless, in areas with limited mobile phone coverage, the program continues

to depend on microfinance institutions for transfer delivery or on mobile phone companies to provide cash directly to beneficiaries. The World Bank team has also supported improvements in the GRM to ensure it is gender sensitive by successfully recruiting for all vacant positions, including a dedicated Gender Based Violence (GBV) specialist and a social safeguard specialist. The planned evaluation of the digital GRM was postponed to FY25 due to the changes in personnel.

In FY25, the World Bank team will focus its support on developing the national safety net program and strengthening systems necessary for its large scale implementation. This includes the creation and capacity building of the national program's Permanent Secretariat and contributing to defining program parameters and rollout approach. The process evaluation of the adaptive cash transfer will analyze compliance with payment procedures, assess the effectiveness of the monitoring system, evaluate the functionality and effectiveness of the GRM, and analyze beneficiary satisfaction. It will offer valuable insights to inform the national program (as well as the recently approved Chad Adaptive and Productive Safety Nets Project). In terms of the payment system, the team has planned an in depth evaluation of financial institutions, telecommunication companies, and regulations around the feasibility of digital payments. Finally, evaluating the digital GRM system supported by the ongoing project will be instrumental in establishing the GRM system for the national safety net program.

## **BOX 12 ADAPTING PRODUCTIVE INCLUSION MEASURES TO THE NEEDS OF REFUGEES**

Chad faces considerable challenges due to a significant influx of refugees, leading to the country providing refuge to approximately 1.23 million individuals as of April 2024. The April 2023 conflict in Sudan led to more than 600,000 additional refugees and 122,000 returnees seeking shelter in Chad. In response, it was decided to expedite the delivery of shock responsive cash transfers through PARCA to assist incoming refugees. As a result, the package of productive inclusion measures was revised to suit the emergency needs of refugees.

- Drawing on insights from a pilot in two provinces, productive measures recipients were chosen among those already receiving regular cash transfers to streamline the identification process. A total of 33,000 beneficiaries will be granted regular cash transfers for 12 months alongside the productive inclusion package over 11 months.

**BOX 12 CONTINUED**

- The productive inclusion package was simplified to encompass three key measures (reduced from the four original activities). The communication and community mobilization measure was streamlined, using simple illustrative graphics to organize communication sessions during the formation of village savings and loan associations (rather than video materials). The psycho social support measure includes additional sessions to bolster the psycho social skills of beneficiaries, tailored to the unique needs of refugees and to the prevailing insecurity (for example, ceasing activities due to beneficiary displacement or conducting sessions in secure locations). Finally, localized tool sheets have been designed to reflect the economic specificities of different areas and populations (refugees versus host communities), informed by a 2022 study on social and economic inclusion dynamics.
- Building on a qualitative study from 2022, which shed light on the socio economic opportunities and challenges faced by refugee and host communities, the design of the modified package and its implementation strategies were revised. In particular, greater emphasis was placed on leveraging local staff and NGOs with established community connections for program execution. Also, training for field staff was conducted in areas that are more secure than the potential zones of intervention. Third, the formation of savings and loan groups is maintained to foster social cohesion, with the integration of host and refugee groups being encouraged when deemed suitable. Finally, coaching is customized to meet the distinct needs of the target areas and populations, incorporating psycho social elements and considering the realities of insecurity and conflict.

This experience demonstrates that it is possible to adapt productive inclusion measures effectively to emergencies, refugee and host populations, and constrained capacities.

**BUILDING BLOCK 3:*****Finance***

**In FY24, the finance building block remained relatively limited, focusing on the elaboration of the National Strategy and Action Plan for Disaster Risk Management.**

The assessment of insurance systems for the informal sector and rural population was postponed to FY25 as the team focused on strengthening foundational programs and delivery systems for ASP.

**In FY25, the team anticipates a greater focus on this building block.** In addition to studying insurance mechanisms for the informal sector and rural population, the team will finalize a DRF for the ASP diagnostic report in collaboration with CDP. The report will give an overview of the geographical distribution and severity of the main disasters in Chad, assess the current landscape of DRF instruments for ASP, and provide recommendations on

strengthening them. This will help identify the primary action areas to advance risk financing in Chad. Policy dialogue on promoting ASP financing and sustainability will be strengthened with the government, including by potentially creating a dedicated budget line for financing the regular national safety net program. In addition, a trigger analysis will be conducted to inform rapid response to floods that might be piloted under the new project.

**BUILDING BLOCK 4:*****Data and information***

**In FY24, support primarily focused on the social registry to define a clear vision for the new RSU platform and strengthen the operational and institutional capacity of the RSU team.** A thorough diagnosis of the RSU was undertaken, and support was provided to the RSU team to develop a strategic roadmap for its expansion. The

Bank team also provided support to the elaboration of the decree re specifying the RSU unit's role defined in 2019 (N°0010/PR/MEPD/SE/DG/INSEED/2019) and the use of a harmonized questionnaire specified in 2017 (038/PR/PM/SE/SG/DGEP/2017). To support the operational capacity of the RSU team, a Chadian delegation participated in the October 2023 workshop on social registries in Dakar, and a study tour was organized in February 2024 to study the systems in Burkina Faso, Mali, and Mauritania. The revision and simplification of the RSU's harmonized questionnaire in February 2024 was another critical activity conducted. An assessment reviewed the institutional frameworks of the national EWS for emergency preparedness and response, food security and nutrition, and social protection. One of the primary action areas identified was the development of early drought indicators. The team also started a vulnerability mapping exercise to inform ASP activities under the new project as well as other IDA projects that focus on food insecurity or address other forms of vulnerability resulting from climate shocks.

**In FY25, technical assistance will continue for the RSU and EWS.** The team will support the finalization of the social registry platform and its preparedness for gradual deployment to the whole country by 2030. This includes a focus on developing an operational manual, setting up steering and technical committees, and providing technical support to build the MIS. The team is facilitating the collaboration between the Chad RSU team and the Mauritania and Burkina Faso social registry teams. The results from ongoing RSU diagnosis will guide technical assistance in FY25 and beyond, including defining specifications for implementing an MIS and GRM for the social registry. The team will also support updating the proxy means test coefficients using the latest household survey data and considering the specificity of the refugee situation. Furthermore, the team will continue its support of the EWS based on the recommendations of the assessment conducted in FY24. Planned activities include finalizing the vulnerability mapping exercise, developing early drought indicators to strengthen the EWS' inputs into the Cadre Harmonisé (with the CDP), and piloting climate early warning indicators to enable higher quality, faster, and more granular data analysis and response planning.



**TABLE 7****Summary activities and outputs for SASPP engagement in Chad**

<b>BUILDING BLOCKS</b>	<b>FY24 ACTUAL ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS</b>	<b>FY25 PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS</b>
<b>INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS</b>	Supported elaboration of NSPS, including dedicated workshops.	Support the implementation of the NSPS.
	Established a joint task force with UNICEF and WFP to support the ASP agenda in Chad.	Support the harmonization of safety net intervention parameters with WFP.
	Supported signature of MOU between the national agency for refugees and returnees and the national agency in charge of IDs to issue ID cards to refugees (in collaboration with UNHCR).	Support the provision of secure ID cards to refugees.
	Supported coordination of response to Sudanese refugee influx.	
		Setup the social registry steering and technical committees.
<b>PROGRAMS AND DELIVERY SYSTEMS</b>	Designed productive inclusion packages based on key findings from qualitative research in four provinces.	Carry out a process evaluation of the adaptive cash transfer program.
	Disseminated productive inclusion impact evaluation findings.	
		Support institutionalizing the national program, with the creation and capacity building of the Permanent Secretariat of the national safety net program.
	Supported digital payments for the payments made in FY24.	Undertake an in depth evaluation of financial institutions, telecommunication companies, and regulations around the feasibility of digital payments.
	Supported improvements in the GRM.	Evaluate the digital GRM system to understand its use, ability to address sensitive issues (gender based violence and personal data protection), and user feedback.
<b>FINANCE</b>	Contributed to the elaboration of the National Strategy and Action Plan for Disaster Risk Management.	
		Assess insurance systems for the informal sector and rural population.
		Finalize DRF for ASP diagnostic with CDP. Conduct a trigger analysis to inform the use of pre arranged financing instruments for shock responsive transfers with CDP.
<b>DATA AND INFORMATION</b>	Defined a vision for the RSU and supported the institutional and operational capacity of the RSU team.	Support the development of the RSU platform, including the development of its operational manual, setting up of the RSU steering and technical committees, and specifications for the MIS.
	Supported the participation of the RSU team at a workshop in Dakar in October 2023 and a visit to Mali, Mauritania, and Burkina Faso in February 2024.	Update proxy means test model using the latest poverty survey data.
	Supported the harmonization of the RSU questionnaire.	
	Assessed the institutional framework of the national EWS.	Finalize vulnerability mapping.
	Initiated vulnerability mapping to inform ASP shock response.	Support the development of early drought indicators and pilot climate early warning indicator(s) to enable higher quality, faster, and more granular data analysis and response planning.





## 4.3 MALI

### ASP World Bank Engagement in Mali

**The ASP World Bank engagement in Mali was anchored in the Emergency Social Safety Net (Jigisemejiri) project, approved in 2013 and closed in 2023.** With a total of US\$134.4 million in funding, including US\$12.4 million from the SASPP MDTF, the project has provided 103,541 households with safety nets, such as cash transfers and income generating activities, and provided lean season support to 30,000 households (about 180,000 individuals). Nationwide, it has provided public works for 14,600 individuals and granted income generating activities to 29,997 individuals. In addition, the project supported establishing an RSU, which now encompasses 1.1 million households (including beneficiaries of the Jigisemejiri program and other social programs supported by the government and development partners). The Implementation Completion Report for the project was completed and highlights the positive impacts of the project beyond the delivery of support to beneficiaries (**Box 13**).

**Despite the closing of the Emergency Social Safety Net project, the ASP engagement in Mali continues through operational and analytical activities.** On the operational front, the Mali Dry Land Development Project (PDAZAM), led by the Agriculture GP and co led by the SPJ GP, includes

a social protection component aimed at strengthening household resilience through cash transfers and enhancing agricultural productivity through economic inclusion initiatives. The systems developed under the Emergency Social Safety Net project and supported by the SASPP MDTF are used by the PDAZAM project to reach nearly 70,000 individuals with regular cash transfers. Additionally, nearly 4,200 grants for productive investment projects have been disbursed, supporting vulnerable smallholders, and promoting valuable crop chains. Through the PDAZAM, the team also supports the inclusion of an additional 40,000 households into the RSU. The team has continued to provide strong support to the RSU, raising awareness for the tool among a diverse set of stakeholders and providing technical support, including analyzing the quality of the RSU data and supporting the capacity of its administrators. Beyond the PDAZAM, the team supports and promotes using ASP tools in other sectors. For example, a new health project under preparation (Advancing Resilience and Inclusive Health Systems for Everyone) aims to improve beneficiary identification by using the RSU. Finally, in addition to the operational engagement, the analytical engagement focused on establishing the knowledge base for future operational engagements and bringing the social protection agenda to a much broader audience by contributing a special chapter on strengthening productive safety nets from a gender perspective to the FY24 Mali Economic Update (see also Box 14 below for safety net program adaptation informed by gender).



## BOX 13 RESULTS OF THE EMERGENCY SOCIAL SAFETY NET PROJECT—A FEW HIGHLIGHTS

The project development objective was to increase access to targeted cash transfers for poor and vulnerable households and build an adaptive national safety net system in the recipient's territory. The project exceeded the targeted number of beneficiary households: A total of 105,491 beneficiary households and 576,907 individuals (against the targeted 100,000 households and 550,000 individuals) received support, either in the form of direct cash transfers, labor intensive public works, or income generating activities. Direct cash transfers were regularly provided over 36 months to 103,541 households (exceeding the target of 87,000). The project nearly reached the targeted number of income generating activities beneficiaries but faced challenges in achieving the expected number of public works beneficiaries due to disbursement suspensions caused by the 2020/21 political crisis, the insecurity situation in the center and north, and the design of the public works measures that relied on too many distinct contractors.

The combination of cash transfers and accompanying measures led to significant improvements in households' food security, savings, and asset base and a slight decrease in poverty. An impact evaluation comparing early and late treatment groups at midline found that the cash transfers and accompanying measures supported by the project increased consumption by 10 to 20 percent and reduced poverty by 14 percent. The program also increased the proportion of households classified as food secure or having little to no hunger, improved households' dietary diversity, and improved diet quality. Impacts were also noted in terms of investment in education, with a 56 percent increase in the probability that a teenage girl enrolled in school goes on to the next class. The program reduced determinants of poverty and increased resilience by strengthening households' asset base and savings. Beneficiary households were 46 percent more likely to invest in income generating assets compared to non beneficiaries—resulting in 7 percent more investments in small cattle and 11 percent in larger cattle. The asset base was increased, particularly in terms of livestock and transport assets.

The project also supported the building blocks of the national ASP system. It supported setting up the Unité Technique de Gestion des Fonds Sociaux as the government technical unit for the delivery of safety net programs, which created and tested systems (social registry, digital payments) that contributed to an effective and coordinated scale up of safety net programs by the government and development partners. The support also contributed to developing the social registry, which currently hosts data for 1.1 million households (against an initial target of 80,000 households).

### Changes in ASP context during FY24

**Political instability and security challenges have slowed the government's progress in implementing the ASP building blocks.** While establishing the RSU as the main entry for social programs was a crucial development, progress in other areas, such as institutional arrangements and partnerships, has been hampered by the unstable political climate.

**Projections for the 2024 food security situation are slightly worse than in the previous year, highlighting the need for strong ASP systems.** From June to August 2024,

1,372,224 individuals are projected to be in the crisis phase, corresponding to 6 percent of Mali's population. An estimated 4,020,622 individuals, or 18 percent of the population, could be in the emergency phase. The number of individuals in the crisis phase increased by 10 percent compared to the same period of 2023. The displacement of population groups linked to insecurity continues in the regions of Mopti, Gao, Ségou, Timbuktu, and Ménaka, the region with the highest risk of famine. As of November 2023, an estimated 391,961 individuals were internally displaced. This underscores the importance of resources and further investment in supporting vulnerable communities.

## Key ASP developments and SASPP activities

### **The vision in Mali is to establish a comprehensive ASP system capable of quick and efficient expansion during crises.**

The engagement is therefore articulated along several dimensions. First, strategically leveraging the RSU is key to streamlining processes, improving coordination, optimizing poverty targeted social spending, and enhancing the response to climate shocks. Second, using a solid payment platform will further streamline the delivery of assistance. Third, the rollout of productive inclusion measures for the most vulnerable is critical to ensure sustainable livelihoods and for the system's long term sustainability and widespread adoption. Finally, integrating humanitarian and programmatic support is critical for a cohesive and resilient public support system, particularly in the face of overlapping shocks. Advancing this vision requires crucial support and collaboration with partners like UNICEF, WFP, and the EU. In particular, working together is essential for promoting the RSU's expansion and use, critical to coordinating humanitarian and social protection efforts. To this purpose, the EU and World Bank lead a donor task force supporting the RSU's steering committee, while the EU facilitates the adoption of a standard questionnaire among NGOs it supports.

### **Despite the challenging environment, the analytical and technical assistance tasks have progressed toward their development objectives and remain highly relevant.**

The goal for the engagement in FY24 was to preserve the tools supported and pave the way for a more effective ASP system. Among key activities, the team organized a workshop in December 2023 to explore options to advance the social protection agenda with key stakeholders and prepared a chapter for the Mali Economic Update to bring the topic of social protection to a wider audience. The team is also finalizing a study of the EWS in Mali, focusing on the institutional arrangements underpinning the processes of data production and utilization. This study includes mapping actors and processes regarding the production and collection of early warning systems indicators linked to food security, a crucial element to inform future shock responsive safety nets. A study on disaster risk financing for ASP, prepared in collaboration with CDP, lays the foundations for improving the mobilization of resources for the effective deployment

of social assistance in the case of shocks. Given the critical role of the RSU, the team conducted a data quality analysis of the RSU's data to guide its future update. Finally, the team prepared a case study in collaboration with the Fragility and Forced Displacement pillar to showcase the adaptations deployed during project implementation and inform future operations.

### **In FY25, the team will continue to focus on the data and information building block and, to the extent possible, on the institutions and programs and delivery systems building blocks.**

Activities will likely need to be adjusted during the year, given potential changes to the political and operational environments. Currently, the team envisions continuing to raise awareness for the RSU through workshops addressing an audience beyond government and partners. It also plans to support the Mali government in elaborating the new national social protection policy, expected to incorporate a shock response social protection strategy, and explicitly adopt the principles of ASP as its core tenets. Under the data and information block, the team will support the development of an operational manual for the RSU, including a methodology for ensuring it remains up to date, leveraging the FY24 study on data quality. Under the programs and delivery block, the team will conduct a study exploring the role of regional and local committees in selecting beneficiaries of safety nets. This will help identify potential inefficiencies and underpin the design of better targeting systems. In addition, the team is expected to lead a technical study providing tangible options for expanding the coverage of social safety nets both horizontally and vertically. Finally, the team also envisions conducting a study on potential mechanisms to finance social protection in the country sustainably.

## DETAILED SASPP ACTIVITIES

### BUILDING BLOCK 1:

#### Institutional arrangements and partnerships

**During FY24, the team supported several initiatives to strengthen coordination between the government and partners.**

The team continues to liaise closely with partners such as WFP, the EU, and UNICEF to align technical discussions and present the government with a joint approach for support to ASP through, among others, convening on a monthly basis in the social protection, food security, and nutrition working group. On a technical level, the team, UNICEF, and WFP have started discussing the need for a national safety net program. The Direction Nationale de la Protection Sociale et de l'Économie Solidaire (DNPSES) has submitted draft terms of reference on this topic to development partners for feedback. The team has amplified the advocacy on ASP by (i) preparing a sectoral policy note, as requested by the country management unit, which highlights key messages and provides guidance on setting up efficient social protection mechanisms and (ii) preparing a special chapter of the Mali Economic Update that makes a case for gender sensitive social protection. The team continued its technical support to the government team managing the Emergency Social Safety Net project (which conducts the social protection activities of the PDAZAM project) and to the thematic group for social protection, food security, and nutrition. In particular, the team supported the dialogue with a broad set of stakeholders through a workshop in December 2023, attended by more than 50 participants belonging to government institutions, development partners, and civil society. The workshop was critical to raising awareness of the social protection agenda and the role of the RSU while providing a platform to discuss priorities and challenges to the social protection agenda. The team also supported the government's participation in a workshop on experiences of productive inclusion in the Sahel, organized by the Development Impact Evaluation Department, exposing key stakeholders to regional experiences.

**For FY25, in collaboration with UNICEF and WFP, the team aims to support elaborating the new national social protection policy to promote a stronger integration of the ASP concept into the country's policy.** Initially planned

for FY24, this was postponed, allowing for the assessment of the former policy's action plan (2016–18 and 2021–25). The action plan terms of reference have been completed but not implemented. FY24 workshops and seminars will inform the new policy. The team will also continue to raise awareness for ASP programs and instruments, particularly the RSU, through workshops addressing an audience beyond government and partners. The team will further continue its collaboration with partners through the thematic group for social protection, food security, and nutrition on the use of the RSU for harmonized targeting, a common fund for donors to pool resources for shock response and the national food security survey (Enquête Nationale sur la Sécurité Alimentaire et Nutritionnelle). Additionally, the team, in collaboration with the EU, German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), Canadian cooperation, and USAID, will continue to support the operationalization of the National Food Security, Nutrition and Social Protection Council (CNSANPS), launched in 2022 to merge the different councils for better coordination in the sector.

### BUILDING BLOCK 2:

#### Programs and delivery systems

**In FY24, the team carried out several activities to inform the future design of programs and strengthen delivery systems.**

In collaboration with the Fragility and Forced Displacement pillar, the team is finalizing a case study to showcase the adaptations to conflict and fragility that the Emergency Social Safety Net project had implemented during its implementation. This analysis highlights the flexible manner in which the delivery was tailored to the continuously changing security and political context and draws lessons for ASP in fragile and insecure environments. The team disseminated the findings of two studies through events discussed above. First, the quantitative evaluation of the impact of making women the beneficiaries of cash transfers in the city of Koulikoro highlighted that designating women as recipients of the transfer was culturally acceptable and did not lead to major backlash. However, merely changing the recipient of funds did not lead to further improvements in empowerment, as most women handed transfers over to their husbands (**Box 14**). Second, a qualitative study assessed the awareness and utilization of non contributory health insurance among safety net beneficiaries and showed that many did not receive their insurance cards due to



poor coordination between health insurance and safety net agencies. Those with cards faced difficulties accessing free services due to a lack of financing to health clinics. The first study led the government to consider women as the main recipients of future social safety net programs, while improving access to health insurance is currently under discussion with the health team, particularly since a lack of financing for health clinics has been identified as a main constraint. The team also published a blog post on user research on digital payments and promoted the study through a video.

**In FY25, the team will continue to support the design of a national safety net program.** This will entail a study on the role of regional and local committees in selecting beneficiaries of safety nets. The study aims to scrutinize how these committees operate; their criteria; and their processes to identify potential inefficiencies, biases, or gaps. The study will first assess how much these committees are

used by social safety net programs in selecting beneficiaries and select one or two programs to study in depth. The findings will serve as a critical foundation for redesigning more effective and equitable targeting systems. Originally planned for FY24, this activity was pushed to FY25 due to its complexity and the need for significant preparatory work for field interviews in potentially insecure areas. The team will also continue to provide technical assistance to design a national safety net program in collaboration with development partners. This will involve a comprehensive review of the terms of reference for developing a national safety net program circulated by the DNPSES. Also, the team may facilitate a workshop, likely with partners, to refine the program further. Concurrently, the team plans to conduct a technical study aimed at providing tangible options for expanding the reach of social safety nets, exploring strategies for horizontal and vertical expansion. Finally, the collaboration with the health team will continue to inform the preparation of a new project in that sector.

## BOX 14 STRENGTHENING PRODUCTIVE SAFETY NETS FROM A GENDER PERSPECTIVE

In some countries, a woman receiving a transfer can lead to differential and positive outcomes. In other contexts, the recipient's gender does not seem to influence outcomes. To improve understanding of the impact of the recipient's sex on household expenditure, food security, dietary diversity, children's outcomes, and household dynamics in Mali, the team conducted a pilot with women becoming the primary transfer recipients. This was a novel approach in Mali, where transfers have traditionally been received by the (male) head of household. There were initial concerns that such a shift might lead to the "misuse" of funds and disrupt household peace.

Qualitative research conducted three months after the transfers revealed a high level of acceptance for the transfer to a spouse despite it being perceived as an anomaly. However, only a quarter of women personally collected the transfer, with the majority delegating the task to their husbands or male relatives. As such, the transition to women beneficiaries alone proved insufficient in empowering them. Still, data from a quantitative follow up survey, conducted nine months after the transfers, offers interesting findings:

- Knowledge of the program was nearly universal when women were the nominal transfers recipients, with their awareness of how the transfer was utilized increasing by 18 percentage points from a baseline of 66 points. In contrast, 95 percent of men reported knowing how the transfer was used, regardless of who the nominal recipient was.
- There was a significant increase in reported spending on education (by 10 points) and soap (by 13 points) when women were the recipients.

**BOX 14 CONTINUED**

- Both genders reported no significant differences in individual dietary diversity, suggesting that in the short term, amidst uncertainty, food security is prioritized over dietary diversity, irrespective of the recipient's gender.
- The shift did not result in any major changes in decision making power within the household. No differential impact was observed on relationships between husbands and wives or on social capital.

There are multiple lessons learned from this initiative. First, far from increasing domestic disputes and tensions, paying transfers to women has either eased tensions or done no harm. Second, addressing resource constraints alone is insufficient to effect significant changes in social norms. Third, in environments plagued by extreme food insecurity, the imperative of food security overshadows gender considerations.

**BUILDING BLOCK 3:****Finance**

**Discussions on the financing of ASP have been constrained by the security situation in Mali, as well as the ongoing economic and political climate.** As a result, the team has decided to focus more narrowly on financing mechanisms for shock response. Since the mobilization of resources is a critical bottleneck for effectively deploying social assistance in case of shocks, it is paramount to have a clear diagnostic of the instruments in place in Mali. To this end, the team has supported two studies, led under the pillar on Climate Shock Responsive Delivery Systems with CDP: a diagnostic of disaster risk financing for ASP in Mali in FY24 and contributions to a regional study of national contingency funds to be finalized in FY25.

**In FY25, the team will conduct a study exploring options for financing social assistance, focusing on disaster risk financing.** This study will delve into the options outlined in the FY22 policy brief on “Options for Financing Social Assistance Expenditure.” It will collect updated data on current funding levels, sources of finance, and expenditure patterns, and it will focus on disaster risk financing strategies. Building on the regional studies discussed under Pillar B, it will consider a potential strategy involving setting aside funds annually into a combination of a government managed reserve fund, contingent credit, and sovereign risk insurance. Finally, it will include an evaluation of Mali's fiscal capacity to increase social protection spending.

**BUILDING BLOCK 4:****Data and information**

**In FY24, the team focused on EWS and the RSU.** The team is finalizing a study of the EWS in Mali, focusing on the institutional arrangements underpinning the data production and utilization processes. This analysis is crucial to inform the ongoing dialogue and future shock responsive safety nets. In Mali, the early warning system and the response to shocks during the lean season mainly build on the Cadre Harmonisé. The study highlighted potential improvements to the accuracy and timing of shock response. This includes improving the current paper based data gathering process, which often results in responses with severe delays, while food insecure areas can be predicted up to six months ahead of time. It also includes improving the granularity of food security data, currently at the district level (“cercles”), as well as making monitoring a continuous process to inform decision making. The team also focused on strengthening the capacity and use of the social registry under a donor task force co led with the EU to support the RSU steering committee. It supported the participation of RSU staff in regional learning and knowledge exchange events organized under the Climate Shock Responsive Delivery Systems pillar, such as the technical workshop in Dakar and the webinar with the Brazilian government on the Cadastro Único. The team also conducted a technical study on the quality of the RSU, examining the completeness, coherence, and currency of the data. Preliminary results indicate that the data is of overall good quality. The results constitute an important step toward reinforcing trust in the RSU and will serve as critical input for

the operational manual, which will include a data updating strategy.

**In FY25, the team plans to support the development of an operational manual for the RSU.** Initially planned for FY24, the support for developing an operational manual has been postponed since the analysis took longer than expected due to numerous technical issues during the data transfer.

The manual will include guidelines for respecting privacy to enhance its operational effectiveness and user's trust in the instrument. As part of the operational manual, the team will focus on developing a methodology for the updating mechanism of the RSU to ensure timely and accurate data updating as well as a protocol for data collection in insecure areas.

**TABLE 8**

**Summary activities and outputs for SASPP engagement in Mali**

BUILDING BLOCKS	FY24 ACTUAL ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS	FY25 PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS
<b>INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS</b>	Supported dialogue and raised awareness on social protection and the role of the RSU through a stakeholder workshop in December 2023.	Continue to raise awareness of social protection and the RSU through workshops addressing an audience beyond government and partners.
	Developed a policy note on “Efficient social protection mechanisms to support the most vulnerable.”	Continue to liaise closely with partners, including on the need for a national social safety net program.
	Prepared Mali economic update chapter on social protection.	Support the government in the elaboration of the new social protection policy.
	Supported the participation in a workshop on experiences of productive inclusion in the Sahel.	
		Support the operationalization of the CNSANPS.
<b>PROGRAMS AND DELIVERY SYSTEMS</b>	Finalized a case study that showcases the adaptations that the Emergency Social Safety Net project put in place during its implementation (with the Fragility and Forced Displacement Pillar).	Conduct a study exploring the role of regional and local committees in the selection of beneficiaries of safety nets.
	Disseminated findings of an evaluation of the impact of making women the beneficiaries of cash transfers (during the December 2023 workshop and in the Mali Economic Update special chapter).	Support the government in the elaboration of a potential national social safety net program.
	Disseminated main findings from the study of access to the health assistance system (during the December 2023 workshop and in the Mali Economic Update special chapter).	Continue the dialogue with the World Bank health team on synergies, informing the design of the pipeline health project.
	Published a blog post on user research on digital payments and promoted the study through a video.	
<b>FINANCE</b>	Conducted a study on disaster risk financing for ASP (with CDP under the Climate Shock Responsive Delivery System pillar).	Conduct a study on potential mechanisms to sustainably finance social protection in Mali.
<b>DATA AND INFORMATION</b>	Conducted a study of the institutional arrangements of the EWS, mapping key actors and processes regarding the production and collection of early warning systems indicators linked to food security.	
	Co-led donor task force (with EU) on the RSU, supporting its steering committee.	Support the elaboration of an operational manual for the RSU, including an updating mechanism.
	Conducted a technical study on the quality of data contained in the RSU.	

## 4.4 MAURITANIA

### ASP World Bank Engagement in Mauritania

The SASPP activities in Mauritania are rooted in the Social Safety Net System Project II, which is implemented by the Taazour General Delegation. They aim to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the country's adaptive safety net system while expanding its coverage. Building on the success of the first Mauritania Safety Net System Project (P150430, 2015–20), the Social Safety Net System Project II was approved in April 2020 with a budget of US\$72 million, including US\$7 million from the SASPP MDTF. In April 2021, additional financing of US\$13 million, funded by the SASPP MDTF, was approved to expand the 2021 lean season response, considering the lasting impact of the COVID 19 pandemic. Additionally, the AFD contributed parallel co financing of EUR5 million, followed by another EUR2.5 million in November 2022 to support shock response systems and transfers. Significant reforms have also been supported by a series of Development Policy Operations, leading to the establishment of the institutional shock response framework in 2021 and a risk financing mechanism in 2022.

In April 2024, additional financing of US\$36 million was approved, supported by the SASPP MDTF with a co financing grant of US\$10 million. This financing aims to sustain the regular safety net, expand coverage to include additional refugees, expand the social registry, strengthen the shock response system, and advance the disaster risk financing agenda. The team has initiated discussions with the government on the vision for the future of the safety net and the World Bank's role in supporting it. Given the strong commitment to transition toward results based financing, an assessment is underway to gauge the sector's readiness for a Program for Results operation. Finally, close collaboration with the IMF advanced the institutionalization of the national

safety net program through a decree in April 2024 and led to an increase in government ownership and financing of the shock response programs.

### Changes in ASP context during FY24

FY24 was marked by preparations for the presidential election, which constrained government availability but did not diminish the steadfast commitment to ASP. With the elections scheduled for June 2024, policy dialogue slowed toward the end of the fiscal year. Although the elections are anticipated to be peaceful, there is uncertainty regarding policy transitions. Simultaneously, there is significant momentum for social protection. The government is in the final stages of revising the National Social Protection Strategy, which has engaged numerous technical and financial partners since its inception in 2022. The updated strategy, expected to be adopted before the elections, integrates aspects of ASP. The current president's commitment to regular safety nets is evident in the continuous increase in domestic funding, with allocations covering around 75 percent of the Tekavoul program's budget in 2023 and, more recently, accounting for 50 percent of the cost of the cash response in the 2024 national response plan. Additionally, the government expedited the social registry update and the inclusion of Nouakchott into the regular safety net initiatives launched in April 2024. Finally, the Tekavoul program was institutionalized by decree in April 2024, securing its continuity beyond potential governmental changes.

Mauritania is grappling with an influx of refugees. The country is home to over 116,000 refugees, with the majority residing in the Moughataa of Bassikounou in the Mbera refugee camp and surrounding villages. Refugees rely heavily on humanitarian aid for their basic needs, and the coexistence of refugees and host communities is under strain due to prevalent poverty, limited-service availability,



and perceived inequities. Efforts led by the UNHCR and WFP have primarily concentrated on providing assistance within the camp and, to a lesser extent, host communities, thereby cushioning part of the effects of the influx on service delivery and social cohesion. Nonetheless, with the continued decline in humanitarian aid, ensuring access to essential services is becoming increasingly problematic. The government, however, remains committed to integrating refugees into national safety nets.

**While 2022 marked one of the most severe food crises since 2012, significant food insecurity has persisted into 2023 and 2024 despite improved rainfall conditions.** In 2023, 475,000 people were considered to be severely food insecure, 316,000 of which were included in the National Response Plan and received support thanks to the concerted efforts of all stakeholders. In the upcoming lean season, 656,652 people are projected to be food insecure, and the planned response aims to cover 72 percent of them with substantial government contributions through National Fund for Response to Food and Nutrition Crises (FNRCAN). This represents the largest response via the Tekavoul shock response program and showcases the strong support for the ASP agenda and the government and partners' shared vision. The persistent nature of food insecurity crises accentuates the need for an integrated approach that enhances the productive and adaptive impacts of safety nets, including expanding economic inclusion measures.

### Key ASP developments and SASPP activities

**The vision for ASP in Mauritania is to improve the system to be adaptive, dynamic, and scalable, protecting, and empowering vulnerable populations, including in the face of shocks.** This includes increasing government ownership, strengthening government systems, and amplifying the government's coordination role. The safety net design will shift toward a modular approach, providing customized support based on specific needs, including those of women, youth, refugees, the elderly, people with disabilities, and residents of rural and urban areas. A key focus will be on enhancing effects on human capital and resilience by expanding economic inclusion measures to boost productive and adaptation impacts and increasing the effectiveness and efficiency of shock response systems. Achieving this objective will also require strengthening core delivery systems (early warning systems, the social

registry, the payment platform) and close cooperation with all stakeholders.

**Overall, in FY24, the team continued to focus on strengthening existing systems and working with the government to define the next phase of the safety net program.** The team supported the government with updating the social registry; implementing Tekavoul digital payments in Nouakchott; institutionalizing the Tekavoul and Tekavoul shock response programs through a decree in April 2024; implementing social promotion activities and rolling out economic inclusion measures; and supporting shock responsive programs, coordination, and the operationalization of the FNRCAN with the first contributions by AFD. The team also prepared a second additional financing aimed at scaling up existing initiatives, with a particular focus on economic inclusion and refugee support and initiated a dialogue on the next generation of the safety net system in Mauritania. These discussions focused on making the social registry more dynamic, increasing the modularity and flexibility of the Tekavoul program and expanding economic inclusion measures, integrating refugees residing outside of the Mbera camp into the safety net, and responding to more varied shocks. The team has maintained and built on the existing dialogue and relationships established with the United Nations system (in particular WFP, UNICEF, UNHCR, and ILO) as well as with the IMF and GIZ.

**FY25 will be critical to building upon these achievements and further advancing the vision for ASP in Mauritania.**

The team will continue supporting the social registry with the update and expansion process and the development and pilot of a strategy for its continuous update. FY25 will also be crucial for establishing the FNRCAN as the only financing vehicle for addressing food insecurity and nutritional crisis, with substantial contributions from the government and the World Bank. The team will continue enhancing early warning systems and shock response mechanisms while advocating for government leadership and financial commitment. Additionally, the team will amplify its efforts on economic inclusion and resilience by supporting the development of a strategy to expand economic inclusion interventions. Packages will be simplified and streamlined to facilitate implementation at scale among refugees and host communities, working closely with UNHCR. Lastly, the dialogue to prepare a new World Bank operation will further contribute to advancing the vision for ASP in Mauritania.

## DETAILED SASPP ACTIVITIES

### SASPP supported (recipient-executed) and IDA projects/Development Policy Operations

**In FY24, the government's capacity to respond to shocks significantly increased.** The government's Elmaouna and Tekavoul shock programs supported 35,351 households, which accounted for 73 percent of the individuals prioritized in the National Response Plan. This represents a significant increase from the 50 percent coverage achieved in FY23. Out of these, 19,874 households were funded by the SASPP/AFD. Humanitarian partners covered the remaining 27 percent of the population identified in the National Response Plan, ensuring support for all targeted individuals. Building on long standing support and technical assistance from SASPP and partners, the Elmaouna shock response program reached 29,170 households (of which 13,693 households representing 115,978 individuals were funded by the Social Safety Net Project). Tekavoul also continued to pilot its vertical and horizontal expansion by reaching an additional 6,181 households (funded by SASPP). Regarding gender distribution, around 64 percent of Elmaouna direct recipients and 90 percent of Tekavoul recipients were women. After several delays related to updating the registry data and identifying households due to exit the program, the economic inclusion measures rollout for households exiting the program started and reached around 3,300 beneficiaries exiting the program in FY24, with women making up 95 percent of this group.

### BUILDING BLOCK 1:

#### Institutional arrangements and partnerships

**In FY24, the SASPP continued to support the shift toward a government led ASP system.** This support included continued assistance to strengthen the national shock response framework (Dispositif National de Prévention et de Réponse aux Crises Alimentaires et Nutritionnelles [DCAN]) and the government's coordination role, finalize the National Social Protection Strategy, and institutionalize the safety net program Tekavoul. To strengthen the DCAN, the team provided technical assistance for developing standard operating procedures, revising the decree, and coordinating the various bodies

previously established. This translated into implementing the response during the 2023 lean season response, its evaluation, and the development of the 2024 lean season response plan. The close collaboration between the World Bank and WFP teams was critical to this progress. The aim is ultimately to ensure that the government will be able to lead the process of shock response sustainably, prepare national response plans in a timely manner, and cover a wider range of shocks with decreasing technical assistance from partners. The World Bank and partners also continued to support the National Social Protection Strategy update, and its adoption is expected mid 2024. In FY24, the World Bank continued its strong collaboration with UNHCR by supporting a joint effort with the social registry to collect the data of refugees in Nouakchott and to prepare for the Tekavoul expansion in refugee hosting areas. Finally, close collaboration with the IMF led to the institutionalization of the Tekavoul and Tekavoul shock response programs by decree in April 2024.

**In FY25, the SASPP program will continue to support the government's leadership and coordination role.** Technical assistance will focus on rolling out the new processes and tools developed in FY24 to enhance the efficiency and timeliness of shock response. This will include support to finalize and roll out the DCAN's standard operating procedures, as well as test the early warning system and monitor the evaluation system. The process of developing, coordinating, and evaluating the response plan will be streamlined to enable the development of a national response plan as early as December, facilitating fundraising efforts and timely responses. The team will support the government in coordinating and evaluating the 2024 response and developing the 2025 National Response Plan on time. It will also support the development of the National Social Protection Strategy, emphasizing the need to articulate chronic needs and less frequent shocks. In terms of partnerships, close collaboration with WFP, particularly on the shock response and the social registry, will continue. The team will also reinforce its collaboration with UNHCR to coordinate activities in refugee hosting areas. The partnership with UNICEF is expected to culminate in the adoption of the National Social Protection Strategy. Finally, the team will continue to work closely with the IMF to identify potential reforms to enhance government ownership and financing for regular and shock-responsive programs.

## BUILDING BLOCK 2:

### Programs and delivery systems

In FY24, the team focused on deploying economic inclusion interventions for exiting households, improving delivery systems, streamlining gender considerations, and strengthening the delivery of shock responsive programs. SASPP supported the government's efforts to exit households at the end of the program's five year cycle and to roll out Tekavoul's economic inclusion package for exiting households. This included technical assistance to identify households exiting the program (the process of updating the registry data took more time than anticipated and led to delays in rolling out the economic inclusion packages). The implementation started with the first cohort exiting the program (3,300 households) in six Moughataas in November 2024, enabling the entry of new households into the program. The team also supported the government's efforts to expand Tekavoul to 42,000 households in Nouakchott, enabling the program to reach national coverage, improve and expand the payment

platform, and pilot digital payments. In terms of gender, the collaboration with the Ministry of Social Action, Childhood and Women, and the Youth Employability Project led to the design of the GBV responsive GRM, which will be piloted in FY25. The team continued to support the implementation and evaluation of the family dialog intervention, with results expected in September 2024 (Box 15). In terms of shock response, the dialogue focused on defining the vision for the Elmaouna and Tekavoul shock responsive programs and their articulation. A pilot and evaluation were launched to assess the effectiveness of early responses to shocks through the Tekavoul shock response program, with the first payments successfully made as early as February 2024. In FY24, the team also provided support to the government's capacity to respond to rapid onset shocks by supporting the development of a flood response manual and the implementation of a flood response pilot implemented by Elmaouna and reaching around 1,000 households, laying the groundwork for improved readiness to tackle a broader spectrum of shocks.

## BOX 15 FAMILY DIALOGUE INTERVENTION PILOT IN MAURITANIA

In collaboration with the Africa Gender Innovation Lab, researchers from Trinity College Dublin, and Tekavoul, the team is piloting an intervention known as "family dialogue" aimed at mitigating conflicts and GBV by increasing intra household cooperation and thereby enhancing the welfare effects of the Tekavoul safety net program. The intervention comprises two components: couples based training and community level edutainment. The couples' training program includes 12 sessions and is delivered by specifically recruited facilitators. It focuses on establishing a shared family vision, budgeting, allocating work and resources within the family, decision making, gender norms, conflict and the cycle of violence, emotional regulation, and positive parenting. The community level edutainment component features a fictional five episode mini series titled "Harmony," which depicts couples applying the behavioral changes taught in the couples' training. All content has been adapted to the national context and is delivered in local languages.

An ongoing impact evaluation aims to assess the effect of the family dialogue pilot on women's economic empowerment, household decision making, overall household welfare, division of housework, gender norms and attitudes, relationship quality and conflict, and intimate partner violence for the 2,000 participating couples in the Maghama district. Three versions of the pilot are being evaluated: a condensed version of the couple's training consisting of six sessions focused on intra household cooperation and communication on economic topics, the condensed version of the couple's training plus a community screening of the "Harmony" mini series, and the full 12 session training including additional modules on gender norms, violence and conflict, and positive parenting, along with the community screening of the "Harmony" mini series. Preliminary results from short term follow ups of two beneficiary cohorts suggest promising outcomes, leading to increased women's economic participation, decision making power over household finances, and men's participation in domestic tasks.

**In FY25, the support will focus on enhancing and implementing economic inclusion, improving delivery systems, streamlining gender considerations, and strengthening shock responsive programs.** The team will continue to provide technical assistance to implement Tekavoul's economic inclusion packages for households exiting the program. In addition, the team will revisit the exit strategy of the program to make it more responsive to the dynamic status of households and to ensure current beneficiaries can also benefit from economic inclusion measures. This will include technical assistance to expand economic inclusion measures to selected safety net beneficiaries, considering the cost effectiveness and the capacity required to implement at scale and enhance climate adaptation. In the short term, this will involve streamlining the package to facilitate implementation at scale planned with the additional financing in Hodh El Chergui and customizing the needs of host communities and refugees. Finally, the team will continue to explore synergies with the economic inclusion program Al Barka, which aims to improve employment outcomes for vulnerable youth. The team will also support the government in drawing lessons learned from the digital payment pilot in Nouakchott and the experience of the payment platform with government and non-governmental users. The team will draft an action plan to expand the use of digital payments and enhance the payment platform. Efforts to streamline gender considerations will be pursued, with the dissemination of evaluation results from the family dialog pilot and the definition of the scale up strategy. The GBV responsive GRM will be piloted and rolled out. Finally, the team will support the implementation of the 2024 lean season response, with the largest number of households supported by the Tekavoul shock response to date. The data collection efforts will be supported, and the initial results of the early response pilot will be disseminated. The team will support the government's efforts to integrate responses to floods and other covariate shocks and the assessment of the Elmaouna and Tekavoul shock response modalities, originally planned for FY24 (deferred to FY25 to allow the government to spearhead the process).

### **BUILDING BLOCK 3:**

#### **Finance**

**During FY24, SASPP support focused on the first experience using FNRCAN to channel resources for shock responsive programs.** FNRCAN became operational in

2023, with a first contribution of US\$12.5 million from AFD (for responses in cash). The team, in collaboration with the Disaster Risk Management GP, WFP, and AFD, continued to provide technical assistance on the operational and financial aspects of the FNRCAN. Several challenges emerged during the first year of implementation due to the novelty of the fiduciary circuit and processes, resulting in significant delays. Eventually, US\$4 million was disbursed to provide lean season support to 78,000 beneficiaries via the Elmaouna shock response program. The operational manual was updated following this first experience, and a broader version was developed that encompasses food, livelihood, and nutrition support. The team supported the government to advocate for increased contributions from the general budget and partners. While government resources were not allocated to shock response programs this year (after a contribution to Elmaouna in 2022), close collaboration with the IMF resulted in a large government contribution to both programs for the 2024 national response plan, channeled via the FNRCAN. In addition, World Bank contributions to the FNRCAN will be made to contribute to the 2024 and 2025 lean season cash responses, and the government allocated around US\$14 million to the FNRCAN for the second time to be used for food, nutrition, and livelihoods response via the annual budget voted in November 2023.

**FY25 will be a pivotal year for the FNRCAN, as it will demonstrate its ability to enable ex ante financing and optimize the use of resources to respond to food insecurity.** The team will support the government in the second year of the FNRCAN to channel large government or non government contributions to shock responsive programs in a timely manner and strengthen the operation manual. This will include US\$4 million dollars from AFD to provide support to 80,000 people prioritized in the national response plan and US\$10 million from the government to support 213,000 people. Finally, the team will continue to support the government in its advocacy efforts to ensure regular contributions from the government and partners to respond to food insecurity and nutrition through the fund. To consolidate progress and previous analytical work, the team will develop a financing framework for food insecurity and nutrition. It will also address the need for appropriate articulation of the fund with other risk retention and transfer financing instruments.



## BUILDING BLOCK 4:

### Data and information

**In FY24, continued support was provided to update the social registry and enhance the early warning system.** The registry expanded from 200,000 to 300,000 households, equivalent to all households in the poorest two quintiles. The update is already completed in 48 out of the 52 planned Moughataas, with plans to finalize the update in the remaining Moughataas by the end of 2024. This comprehensive update will increase its reliability and data accuracy. Technical assistance was provided to enhance the inclusion of individuals with disabilities into the registry by exploring the possibility of using the Washington Group Short Set on Functioning to identify people with disabilities within the registry more accurately. After a small pilot in Nouakchott, the set of specific questions was integrated into the registration process, and the information will be available in areas that update their data after May 2024 (for areas where the update has been completed, the government is exploring the opportunity of the continuous update mechanism to improve the identification of people with disabilities). Technical assistance was also provided to develop a strategy for the continuous update of the social registry to make it more dynamic, allowing households to register or update their data at any time and allowing newly arrived refugees to register and potentially receive support from existing programs. Regarding the early warning system, the team supported the food security observatory (Observatoire à la Sécurité Alimentaire) in maintaining the food insecurity prediction tool and explored the feasibility of a web interface

that could be migrated to an online server to facilitate its use and maintenance. The team is advocating for a Food Security Monitoring System survey to take place ahead of the 2024 food distributions, enabling the integration of collected data into the food insecurity prediction tool. In addition, technical assistance led to the establishment of the early warning data server and the development of a monitoring and evaluation system for DCAN. Finally, a study on the drivers of food insecurity in urban areas was completed, which will help assess the relevance and feasibility of extending food insecurity forecasts to large urban areas such as Nouakchott or Nouadhibou.

**In FY25, the team will continue to support updating the registry and strengthening the EWS.** They will finalize the strategy for the continuous update of the registry and implement and evaluate a pilot. The team will also support the government in improving data protection, using the recommendations from the data protection audit conducted by the government in FY24, and designing and implementing an evaluation of the registry's data collection methodology to assess its effectiveness. Finally, the interoperability of the registry database with other databases will be strengthened. Regarding the EWS, the team will support operationalizing the food security observatory server. The team will recalibrate the food insecurity prediction tool, using the data collected in June, which will support the development of a web interface for the tool and support its use as an input into the Cadre Harmonisé. Finally, the team will finalize the analysis and propose recommendations to understand better, monitor, and address food insecurity in urban areas.



TABLE 9

## Summary activities and outputs for SASPP engagement in Mauritania

BUILDING BLOCKS	FY24 ACTUAL ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS	FY25 PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS
<b>INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS</b>	Provided technical assistance to develop standard operating procedures for the DCAN and supported the DCAN in implementing and evaluating the 2023 lean season response and preparing the 2024 national response plan.	Support the DCAN in finalizing standard operating procedures, coordinating, and evaluating the 2024 lean season response, and preparing and coordinating the 2025 national response plan.
	Developed an action plan operationalizing the agreement between the World Bank and WFP.	Implement a joint action Plan with WFP.
	With UNHCR, supported the registration process of new refugees and the monitoring of the registry update in refugee hosting areas and Nouakchott.	Develop and implement a joint action Plan with UNHCR.
	Supported the update of the National Social Protection strategy.	
	In collaboration with the IMF, supported the institutionalization of the Tekavoul safety net program through a decree.	Continued advocacy for further institutionalization of the Tekavoul program.
<b>PROGRAMS AND DELIVERY SYSTEMS</b>	Supported the implementation of Tekavoul's economic inclusion package.	Support the implementation of economic inclusion packages and the development of an expansion strategy that customizes to the needs of different groups and boosts climate adaptation elements. Assess the alignment of Al Barka program with the needs of Tekavoul households and explore synergies.
	Supported the expansion of Tekavoul in Nouakchott and the improvements of the payment platform by piloting digital payments in Nouakchott.	Draw lessons from the digital payment pilot in Nouakchott and develop an action plan to enhance its use further.
	Supported the implementation of the family dialog intervention and its evaluation.	Disseminate evaluation results and support the expansion of the intervention, exploring synergies between social promotion and economic inclusion.
	Developed tools and training modules for Tekavoul's economic promotion accompanying measure.	Provide technical assistance for the rollout and implementation of the economic inclusion package.
	Supported the implementation and evaluation of an early shock responsive pilot. Supported the government in preparing a flood response manual and pilot.	Support the implementation of the 2024 lean season response and the evaluation of the impact of the early shock-responsive pilot. Support the government integration of responses to floods. Assess Elmaouna and Tekavoul shock response modalities (originally planned for FY24).
<b>FINANCE</b>	Supported the operationalization of the FNRCAN with the first contributions from AFD, the revision of the FNRCAN operational manual, and advocacy to promote contributions from government and partners.	Support the operationalization of the FNRCAN, the finalization of the updated operational manual for FNRCAN, advocacy to promote contributions from government and partners, and the development of a shock responsive strategy.
<b>DATA AND INFORMATION</b>	Supported the update and expansion of the social registry, improvements for better inclusion of people with disabilities, and initiated discussions on a strategy for the registry's continuous update.	Support the registry update, the finalization of the strategy for continuous updates, the implementation of an evaluation of the data collection methodology, as well as the implementation of recommendations from the FY24 data protection audit. Support improved data interoperability with databases of social protection actors (ministries of social affairs, various health insurance funds, and so on).
	Supported the food security observatory in using and maintaining the food insecurity prediction tool and establishing an early warning data server. Conducted a study on the drivers and seasonal patterns of food insecurity in urban areas.	Support the operationalization of the food security observatory server and of a web interface for the food insecurity prediction tool. Disseminate the study on drivers of food insecurity in urban areas to identify strategies to address urban food insecurity.



## 4.5 NIGER

### ASP World Bank Engagement in Niger

**ASP support in Niger is embedded in the Niger Adaptive Safety Net Project 2 (P166602, ASP2), which became effective in 2019.** The project aims to improve the capacity of the adaptive safety net system in Niger to respond to shocks and increase poor and vulnerable households' access to the safety net system. This includes a cash transfer for the resilience program; a flagship poverty program targeting the poorest households; productive inclusion programs targeting poor women, youth, refugees, and host communities; shock response programs; a cash for work program aimed at strengthening the resilience of households to climatic shocks; as well as the underlying adaptive delivery system. In 2021, the project received US\$130 million additional financing, of which US\$30 million was from SASPP, to support strengthening the adaptive delivery system and to provide support to the population affected by the impacts of the COVID 19 pandemic. The Bank executed trust fund has been critical in providing just in time support to the government in developing and strengthening the adaptive delivery system and adaptive interventions that build resilience. This has included support in i) improving the capacity to plan, monitor, and coordinate adaptive safety net system; ii) developing the tools to deliver adaptive safety net programs; iii) strengthening the resilience of the poorest by revising the accompanying measures to incorporate lessons learned from impact evaluations and extending their coverage; iv) improving the data and information systems; v) building a shock responsive safety nets system; and vi) conducting impact evaluations to identify the most cost effective approaches.

**Beyond the ASP project, two World Bank projects support the ASP agenda.** The West Africa Unique Identification and Regional Integration and Inclusion Project (P169594) aims

to provide all individuals living on the national territory with a unique identifier to facilitate access to services, including enrollment in the country's unified social registry. The Youth Employment and Productive Inclusion Project (P163157), which closed in 2023, supported the productive inclusion of poor and vulnerable youth across Niger.

### Changes in ASP context during FY24

**Political turmoil in Niger over FY24 has increased the need for a strong social protection system able to respond to rising needs. The political situation and rising insecurity have made such support increasingly challenging.** Border closures by Nigeria and Benin and the economic sanctions introduced in August 2023 further aggravated poverty and food insecurity in the country. Along with a reduction in development financing estimated at approximately 7.5 percent of GDP, the sanctions have had significant socioeconomic impacts. Niger also experienced a surge in food prices, which has increased poverty and exacerbated chronic food insecurity issues. According to preliminary assessments, an additional 700,000 households have fallen into extreme poverty in 2023. Urban households have been particularly affected due to higher food prices, electricity outages, and job losses. Private sector firms, especially those in industry and services, have also been heavily impacted by the trade sanctions, reducing banking sector liquidity and capital spending. The compounding effects of the escalating insecurity and the consequences of climate change continue to affect food security for poorer and displaced households adversely. Insecurity and fragility due to the Boko Haram insurgency along Niger's border with Nigeria and escalating conflicts in neighboring Mali and Burkina Faso increased rapidly following the July 2023 coup. This resulted in significant forced population movements within the Tillabéri, Tahoua, and Diffa regions. UNHCR estimates that Niger was



home to over 700,000 forcibly displaced people, including 366,446 refugees and asylum seekers and 335,277 IDPs in November 2023.

**The July 2023 coup triggered the application of the World Bank's Operational Policy (OP) 7.30, resulting in a suspension of all disbursements to the country's ongoing operations.** This has affected the Niger Adaptive Safety Net Project 2. In preparation for the resumption of implementation, the Bank's social protection team organized a mission in March 2024 to discuss with the new government their vision for the continued development of the ASP system and agree on the key development priorities the World Bank could support. The government confirmed its strong focus on human capital and requested continued support from the World Bank. The suspension of disbursements was lifted in May 2024, and the implementation of the ASP2 project has resumed.

### Key ASP developments and SASPP activities

**Until July 2023, there was continued progress toward establishing a strong government led ASP system.** Both the cash transfer for resilience program, which was scaled up in FY23, enrolling an additional 60,000 households, and the satellite based early drought response pilot, aimed at mitigating the negative impacts of droughts on vulnerable households, had to be temporarily put on hold during the disbursement freeze. Analytical work under the SASPP was able to continue. Core developments include the efforts to revise the National Social Protection Strategy, strengthening its focus on adaptiveness and addressing the fragmented institutional landscape. The new government has signaled that this remains its priority, and the Ministry of Public Affairs, Employment, and Jobs has established a roadmap for its revision. Similarly, the new government is keen on addressing

the fragmentation and strengthening the institutional framework for social protection in Niger. Substantial progress was made in piloting the SWIFT methodology for targeting social programs, assessing the triggers that could be used for early drought response, and determining trigger activation parameters for the 2023/24 drought response. A pilot to introduce digital payments in urban areas has been prepared and is ready to be deployed once the implementation of social programs resumes. Another important development was strengthening the grievance redress mechanism and introducing the Green Line, a free of charge phone line, as a complement to the existing village based complaints committees. An action plan has been developed to strengthen the MIS to support the implementation of social programs and facilitate interoperability, coordination, and communication. Support for the social registry continued in the form of learning exchanges. During the March 2024 mission, the government reconfirmed its interest to continue the work on developing a disaster risk financing strategy.

### DETAILED SASPP ACTIVITIES

#### SASPP supported (recipient-executed) and IDA projects/Development Policy Operations

As described earlier, the application of the OP 7.30 following the July 2023 coup resulted in temporarily pausing new disbursements under World Bank projects, which eventually resulted in suspending the implementation of ASP programs supported by the Niger Adaptive Safety Net Project 2. As a result, while implementing the cash transfer for the resilience program for 60,000 beneficiaries launched in FY23, regular monthly payments were suspended. Similarly, both the ongoing cash for work program (providing temporary work





opportunities to 66,000 beneficiaries) and the second cycle of the drought response pilot (supporting 5,500 beneficiaries) were temporarily suspended. As a result, the cumulative number of beneficiaries did not change during FY24. The team did, however, provide technical assistance to the government in determining the trigger for drought response, with financing provided by UNICEF and WFP. While using their own delivery systems, UNICEF and WFP aligned the benefit value and duration and used the satellite data trigger and the Cadre Harmonisé to target their interventions. During the March 2024 mission, the government expressed the wish to restructure the Adaptive Safety Net Project 2 to align with their development priorities, the new institutional framework, and population needs.

## **BUILDING BLOCK 1:**

### **Institutional arrangements and partnerships**

**During FY24, following the restrictions on engagement prevailing until April 2024, the team focused on improving coordination and alignment among partners.** To coordinate actions better in support of the government leadership, the World Bank, WFP, and UNICEF continued organizing regular meetings and workshops to share their respective vision and activities and explore options to work in better synergy with the government. The main topics included (1) establishing the Unified Social Registry and an MIS for the ASP system; (2) revising the national social protection policy, including its action plan, and formulating a capacity building program, which would serve as a common basis for stakeholder engagement; (3) establishing a multi year disaster risk financing strategy, in line with the revision of the national social protection policy; and (4) initiating programmatic dialogue on responding to drought shock. The revision of the National Social Protection Strategy was put on hold but continues to be a priority for the new government.

**In FY25, strong support for the new institutional framework will be critical to reinforce the institutional anchoring of social protection in Niger.** Planned activities tentatively include technical advice on preparing and conducting process evaluations, functional mapping, and a capacity development plan. The team will also continue providing technical support for updating the National Social Protection Strategy and strengthening the overall legislative and regulatory framework for social protection. Finally, the team will support

the government in establishing the partners' coordination platform, developing a communication plan, and preparing public outreach materials.

## **BUILDING BLOCK 2:**

### **Programs and delivery systems**

**In FY24, while the pause in disbursements resulted in temporarily suspending social programs and investments under the project, the technical work focused on developing and strengthening the delivery system. The drought response program has continued.** The digital payment pilot has been finalized and is ready to be launched, and the team provided technical advice to the government in finalizing the terms of reference for the evaluation of the pilot. The Green Line, which aims to complement existing village based complaints committees, has been implemented but subsequently put on hold due to the temporary suspension of social programs. In addition, the assessment of the existing MIS was completed, and an action plan for its further development was finalized. The team provided technical advice to the government to finalize the technical specifications for three priority modules, namely the digital payment module, the dashboard, and the shock response module, as well as the terms of reference for improvements to the security and performance of the MIS. Technical assistance was also provided to the government to strengthen the drought response program further. Along with the technical support in calculating the existing trigger to enable the program's response this year, a performance analysis of different drought indicators in Niger has been completed. The analysis aimed to evaluate six existing indices to assess their performance in identifying the drought shock. The predictive power for crop yields was assessed through a correlation analysis to test the statistical relationship between drought index values and pearl millet crop yields and a true positive analysis to assess hypothetical historical trigger performance.

**In FY25, the team will focus on the implementation of the social programs and continued development of the delivery system.** This will include support for expanding the adaptive safety net programs; implementing, evaluating, and expanding the digital payment pilot; assessing the GRM Green Line pilot, revising the GRM system accordingly, and providing capacity building for the management of claims; and developing and implementing a GBV sensitization campaign. Support will

also focus on the technical strengthening, preparation, and implementation of the drought response. This will include a comprehensive review of the drought response pilot, building on lessons learned from two years of operation and the impact evaluation. The review will provide the opportunity to engage in a dialogue with the government and partners around this type of intervention.

### **BUILDING BLOCK 3:**

#### **Finance**

**Limited progress was made during FY24.** A technical committee tasked with leading the work on disaster risk financing, including a DRF strategy, was established in 2023, but they were not able to advance this work during the period. During the March 2024 mission, the government reconfirmed its interest in continuing the work on a disaster risk financing strategy, and the World Bank team stands ready to provide analytical and technical assistance to this agenda.

### **BUILDING BLOCK 4:**

#### **Data and information**

**In FY24, the team focused on providing technical assistance to the social registry.** The support revolved around capacity

building activities and technical assistance in defining the deployment and data collection methodologies. In addition to ongoing technical assistance, the team facilitated the RSU's participation at the technical workshop in Dakar in October 2023 and a subsequent study trip to Mauritania in January 2023 to learn from more advanced registries in the region, with a specific focus on data collection. Inspired by the Mauritanian approach and in close cooperation with WFP and UNICEF, a first draft of the data collection strategy has been developed, outlining its geographic deployment over time (**Box 16**), a modular data collection method, and the questionnaire. The SWIFT methodology has been considered for the questionnaire as a tool to reduce its length without impacting the efficacy of the model in predicting monetary poverty.

**In FY25, the technical assistance will focus on providing support for the social registry's data collection.** This will likely be supported with a progressive rollout aimed at covering the entire territory of the country. It will build on the draft data collection strategy. Technical support will be critical for the continued development of the social registry MIS and the establishment of data sharing protocols to facilitate data exchange with the user programs.



## BOX 16 INCORPORATING CLIMATE RISKS INTO SOCIAL REGISTRY DEPLOYMENT STRATEGIES

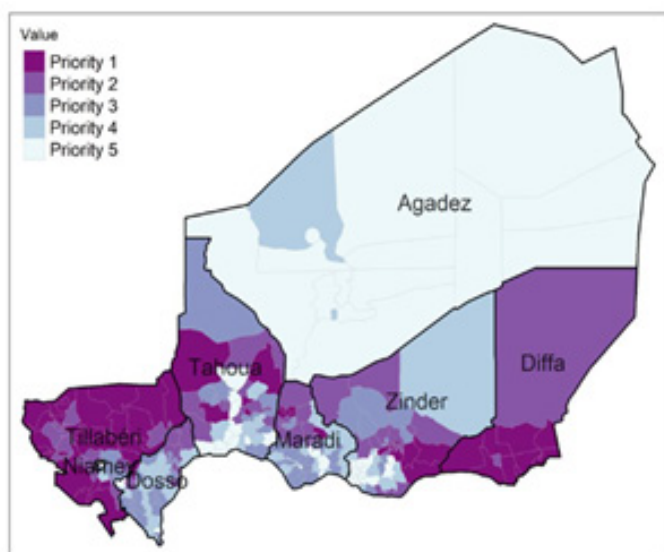
Spatial prioritization can be strategically employed to guide and phase the registry’s geographic expansion over time. To this end, a subnational composite index has been developed to identify the most vulnerable communes based on indicators that can serve as a proxy for vulnerability.

In addition to poverty and food insecurity, the index also considers flood and drought risk to take into their increasing frequency and severity:

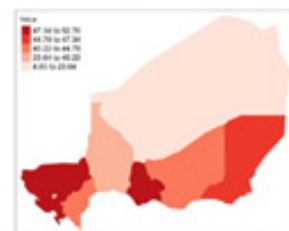
- Poverty rate: the share of people under the national poverty line
- Food insecurity: the share of people in food insecurity, averaged over the past five years, using information from the Cadre Harmonisé
- Flood risk: share of people exposed to flood risk
- Drought risk: share of years in which the water requirement satisfaction index values are below 90 percent of long term median in the last 10 days of October

These four indicators are equally weighted and aggregated to create the composite index, enabling a comparative ranking of the communes. The results will inform the deployment strategy, alongside considerations such as accessibility, the intervention areas of user programs, and spatial continuity, signaling the political ambition to eventually cover the entire territory.

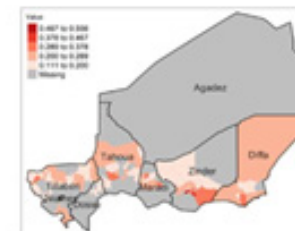
### Vulnerability map



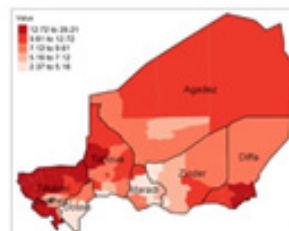
### Poverty rate



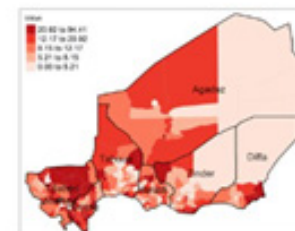
### Drought risk



### Food insecurity



### Flood risk



**TABLE 10****Summary activities and outputs for SASPP engagement in Niger**

<b>BUILDING BLOCKS</b>	<b>FY24 ACTUAL ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS</b>	<b>FY25 PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS</b>
<b>INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS</b>	Supported the revision of the National Social Protection Strategy to strengthen the focus on the adaptiveness of the social protection system and address the fragmented institutional landscape of social protection.	Support the development of a new institutional framework for the social protection system in Niger, including assistance in preparing the process evaluation, functional mapping, and capacity development plan Support the revision of the National Social Protection Strategy and legislative and regulatory framework for ASP.
	Supported the government in conveying development partners in joint meetings for strategic and technical issues.	Support the government in developing a coordination framework, provide support in developing a communication plan and preparing public outreach materials.
<b>PROGRAMS AND DELIVERY SYSTEMS</b>		Support the government in developing the implementation plan for expanding adaptive safety net programs.
	Supported the government in designing the digital payments pilot evaluation and reviewing the work plan provided by the digital payment provider.	Provide support in implementing, evaluating, and expanding the digital payment pilot.
	Implemented the GRM Green Line.	Provide technical assistance for the assessment of the GRM Green Line, the revision of the GRM, and capacity building for its implementation. Support the development of the GBV sensitization campaign.
	Supported the development of the MIS implementation plan.	Support the development of a MIS system, implementing security and performance improvements.
	Supported the government's drought response committee in preparing and implementing the drought response and provided technical assistance to determine drought trigger activation.	Support the preparation and implementation of the drought response and conduct a comprehensive review of the early drought response pilot program.
<b>FINANCE</b>		Support the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs in developing a DRF strategy through analytical and technical assistance.
<b>DATA AND INFORMATION</b>	Provided support to the development of a regulatory framework for the RSU and facilitated the RSU team's participation at the regional technical workshop in Dakar and a study trip to Mauritania.	Support the registry in data collection and implementation of the registry MIS.
	Provided technical assistance to the RSU in designing the SWIFT models in collaboration with Pillar B.	Support the RSU in evaluating the SWIFT pilot and organization of consultations with stakeholders.



## 4.6 SENEGAL

### ASP World Bank Engagement in Senegal

**SASPP activities in Senegal are channeled through the Adaptive Safety Net Project (Projet d'Appui à la Protection Sociale Adaptative [PAPSA]).** This project is a continuation of the Senegal Social Safety Net Project (Projet d'Appui aux Filets Sociaux [PAFS]), approved in FY14 and closed in March 2024. The PAFS played a pivotal role in laying the groundwork for a well functioning social protection system, supported by US\$177.4 million in IDA financing and US\$41.1 million from the SASAPP MDTF. The PAPSA, approved in July 2022 with a US\$100 million IDA grant, aims at enhancing the country's ASP system based on the foundations established by its predecessor. The government has assumed nearly complete financial responsibility for its social protection system, which is now among the most advanced in the West African and the Sahel. Years of technical assistance and innovation provided by the SASPP facilitated this advancement. Currently, the government fully funds the regular cash transfer program through its own budget, while IDA funds are allocated to strengthen the system.

**The ASP agenda also benefits from technical engagement with the FCI GP and CGAP, as well as policy support through development policy operations and IMF engagement.** The team collaborates closely with the FCI GP and the CGAP to enhance the payment systems and explore financing options for shock response. Key reforms, particularly those concerning institutionalizing the social registry and the main safety net program of Senegal, have also been supported by a series of development policy operations. Additionally, the team has partnered with the IMF to promote more regular payments within the safety net programs and the expansion and updating of Senegal's social registry.

### Changes in ASP context during FY24

**FY24 was marked by a tense political situation which cumulated in postponing the presidential election early February, and the rapid organization and election of a new president in April 2024.** The busy and unpredictable electoral schedule considerably complicated the policy dialogue and delayed the implementation of some activities, such as the preparation of the agricultural resilience program and of the new phase of the Yokk Koom Koom program.

**While social protection is likely to remain a prominent pillar of the new president's agenda, uncertainty remains regarding new institutional arrangements.** The outgoing administration demonstrated strong support and ownership of social equity policies and the underlying social protection system, with leadership from the president and his vision outlined in the Plan for an Emerging Senegal (Plan Senegal Emergent). One of the new government's priorities is reducing inequalities and promoting social justice. As such, it recognizes the importance of social protection and the national safety net program (Programme National de Bourses de Sécurité Familiale [PNBSF]). The formation of the new government has led to the creation of the Ministry of Family and Solidarity, which is taking over the responsibilities and mandates of the former Ministry for Women, Family, and Child Protection and the Ministry of Community Development, National Solidarity and Social and Territorial Equity, which oversaw social protection. There is still uncertainty about the composition of the new ministry as well as the role that will be given to each program and agency.

**In 2023/24, Senegal was confronted by the compounding impacts of climate and economic shocks.** Economic growth slowed slightly to 3.7 percent in 2023 due to social unrest and delayed hydrocarbon production. Inflation averaged 6.1 percent, eroding household purchasing power, but poverty remained unchanged. Furthermore, several areas of the

country were impacted by floods between August and October 2023, with high prevalence in urban areas of Dakar and Saint Louis. About 13,000 households affected by floods received assistance through cash transfer payments delivered by the National Solidarity Fund (Fonds de Solidarité Nationale [FSN]). According to the results of the March 2024 Cadre Harmonisé, 730,000 people are projected to be in food insecurity during the upcoming lean season (June–September 2024). The response financed by the PAPSA is projected to cover 60,000 people between June and July 2024.

## Key ASP developments and SASPP activities

**The vision for ASP support to Senegal is to contribute to a robust social protection system capable of covering most needs and to have the ability to scale up and down efficiently in response to changing economic, social, and environmental conditions.** To achieve this, the team must enhance the coordination capacity of the social protection system, fortify its foundational delivery mechanisms by leveraging data and technology, increase the efficacy and coverage of resilience building programs, and improve the system's ability to anticipate the various risks and respond to shocks in a coordinated manner, with a strong focus on climate related shocks. Since 2014, the government has made important progress in the development of an ASP system. The current objective is to further solidify and enhance the system's core elements, including updating, expanding, and improving the quality of the social registry and improving the payment system and GRM. At the program level, the government implemented economic inclusion programs aimed at developing the productive capacities of poor households and shock response programs in response to floods and food insecurity. The World Bank team's engagement focuses on supporting the expansion of these programs and fostering cross sectoral coordination as pertinent.

**During FY24, in line with these priorities, the team was dedicated to activities aiming at consolidating and enhancing the core elements of the adaptive safety net system.** This entailed updating and extending the social registry (Registre National Unifié [RNU]) to all vulnerable households in Senegal, as well as developing a strategy to ensure on demand intake and registration for the RNU to allow for continuous data update. Programs entailed supporting the General Delegation for Social Protection and National Solidarity (Délégation Générale à la Protection Sociale et à la Solidarité Nationale [DGPSN]) and FSN to improve the delivery of cash transfers and the ministry in charge of social protection to elaborate a strategy for improving decentralized service delivery throughout the country. Technical assistance was provided to various agencies that were anchored at the MDCSNET. The election slowed the decision making process on key topics (such as digitizing the PNBSF, recertifying the PNBSF, continuously updating the RNU, ensuring the RNU's interoperability with other datasets, and so on). Nonetheless, the project managed to deliver on program implementation with the successful implementation of economic inclusion programs and shock response programs and to make significant progress in revising the accompanying measures that are delivered as part of the PNBSF.

**FY25 will be critical for the ASP system as it will provide the opportunity for the new government of Senegal to make its mark on the social protection system.** The team will support the new ministry in charge of social protection to strengthen and consolidate the ASP system. Having a new government in place will give the opportunity to make necessary but difficult reforms such as the recertification of beneficiaries and the digitization of the PNBSF, the definition of a strategy for the RNU to facilitate data sharing and continuous data update, the elaboration and implementation of a strategy for improving decentralized social protection service delivery, the elaboration of a financing strategy for shock response programs, and improvements to the main programs to maximize their impact.

## DETAILED SASPP ACTIVITIES

### SASPP supported (recipient-executed) and IDA projects/Development Policy Operations

**In FY24, the team leveraged the safety net project to provide relief to households impacted by shocks, including food insecurity and floods.** A total of 16,400 flood affected households (of which 2,600 were supported with SASPP) were assisted between September and December 2023, and about 4,000 households financed by SASPP (out of a total of 25,000 households) received a cash transfer between August and September 2023 in the four regions Cadre Harmonisé identified as impacted by food insecurity. Additionally, the project supported the national expansion of the productive inclusion Yokk Koom Koom program to 47,300 beneficiaries (7,680 of which with support from SASPP). Households have benefited from a package of services (training and sensitization session, saving facilitation) that was delivered over 18 months and a cash grant. Finally, the agricultural resilience program reached about 28,000 beneficiaries in six regions, financed through SASPP. Poor agricultural farmers were selected in Louga, Matam, Saint Louis, Sedhiou, Kolda, and Tambacounda and received a cash transfer of CFAF 200,000 between August and September 2023 in addition to coaching activities by decentralized agents of the ministry in charge of agriculture and food sovereignty.

**In FY25, the safety net project will support about 7,000 food insecure households in areas the Cadre Harmonisé identified in February 2024.** The project will also support the agricultural resilience program in six departments of the country, covering about 14,000 households using a revised coaching curriculum that will be strengthened with the support of the ministry in charge of agriculture. Finally, the DGPSN plans to enroll an additional 40,000 beneficiaries for the Yokk Koom Koom program.

### BUILDING BLOCK 1:

#### Institutional arrangements and partnerships

**In FY24, the team supported the DGPSN in elaborating a social protection law aimed to clarify the government's vision and provide a general framework for the social**

**protection sector.** The law is expected to be finalized and adopted by the new government in 2024. Furthermore, the team continued to support the dialogue to improve coordination between ministries and agencies involved in shock response activities, including the Executive Secretariat of the CNSA, which coordinates the preparation of the national response plan to food insecurity. This is done by conducting bi monthly meetings with key stakeholders working on early warning systems and shock responsive ASP systems and organizing technical workshops dedicated to strengthening shock response programs. The team has also supported the collaboration between the ministries in charge of social protection and agriculture to ensure the smooth implementation of the agricultural resilience program and that the coaching delivered to beneficiaries is tailored to the needs of both agricultural households and pastoralists. This involved joint workshops to prepare the program and cooperation between the two ministries.

**In FY25, the team will engage with the new ministry in charge of social protection about their vision and the challenges and opportunities in the social protection sector.**

The end of FY24 was marked by the opposition's victory in the presidential election, which might have consequences for the vision and objectives of the social protection sector. The team will deploy support as needed to support the vision. The World Bank team will also continue supporting the clarification of the roles of the various stakeholders within the ministry in charge of social protection to ensure the smooth implementation of activities at the local level. To this end, a needs assessment in terms of decentralized staff, including associated costs of various scenarios, will be conducted.

### BUILDING BLOCK 2:

#### Programs and delivery systems

**During FY24, the team provided technical assistance to the DGPSN in preparing for the recertification of the Programme National de Bourses de Sécurité Familiale (PNBSF) program scheduled to start during fall 2024.** The government had delayed the recertification of the existing pool of beneficiaries due to the elections. The recertification aims to ensure that beneficiaries still meet the eligibility criteria as specified in the 2023 decree creating the program and that the assistance is directed toward those who most require support. In the case of the PNBSF, the duration of the program was fixed at five



years, but all beneficiaries have been in the program for more than five years.

**In FY24, the team also supported the significant expansion of the productive inclusion programs and shock response interventions.** Efforts focused on completing the package of activities of the Yokk Koom Koom program. The cohort of 45,000 beneficiaries enrolled during fall 2022 received several trainings in 2023, including on entrepreneurship and life skills. The delivery of the cash grant, which is the last activity of the 18 month sequence of activities, took place between September and December 2023. Support was also provided to the implementation of the Agricultural Resilience Program, which is dedicated to boosting the productivity of poor farmers and extended for the first time to pastoral areas and fishing communities. In 2023, the program reached about 25,000 beneficiaries in six regions, receiving a cash transfer between August and September 2023 in addition to coaching activities by decentralized agents of the ministry in charge of agriculture. Support was provided to the program to ensure the timely delivery of transfers before the beginning of the rainy season, smooth coordination with the ministry in charge of agriculture, and development of accompanying measures tailored to pastoralists' needs. The safety net system was also leveraged to respond to climate related shocks discussed above. In collaboration with the Human Capital Pillar, the team also supported a comprehensive revision of the PNBSF accompanying measures package to enhance the content, the implementation of measures designed to strengthen resilience, and information sessions on shock preparedness and productive inclusion. The team also initiated a diagnostic of the payment system to support the DGPSN in the digitization of the PNBSF. During FY24, the team provided technical assistance to the FSN and DGPSN on strengthening the MIS, involving a needs assessment and preparation of a comprehensive roadmap. Finally, the team

disseminated the results of the evaluation of the exceptional transfer program, including options to improve the timeliness of payments (lessons from the digital delivery will help assess mobile payment readiness in the context of the planned digitization of PNBSF payments).

**Activities in FY25 will continue with core support to national programs and systems.** Building on the strong and sustained impacts of the Yokk Koom Koom program, as revealed by the program's impact evaluation (**Box 17**), a second phase of the program will be implemented in FY25, reaching 40,000 beneficiaries in urban and rural areas. In collaboration with the Productive Inclusion Pillar, the team will support improvements to the Yokk Koom Koom package to tailor the program to the needs of rural populations, adjust to local languages, and boost resilience to climate change. The agricultural resilience program will also be implemented in six departments and reach 14,000 beneficiaries with agricultural or pastoral livelihood. In order to boost the impact of the PNBSF cash transfers on resilience, human capital formation, and income diversification, the program will provide an enhanced package of accompanying measures to 350,000 beneficiaries. The team will support the diversification of tools and mechanisms to communicate the new messages to beneficiaries and develop training material to ensure effective delivery of the new set of accompanying measures. The team will also support the implementation of the recertification of the PNBSF beneficiaries, ensuring that messages around eligibility criteria, program characteristics, and program duration are clearly communicated to households entering/exiting the program as well as to the broader communities. Based on the FY24 review of the MIS of the FSN and DGPSN, the team will support the creation of monitoring modules for ASP programs and the preparation of a roadmap to digitize the PNBSF payments and strengthen the GRM system.





## BOX 17 SUSTAINED IMPACTS OF THE YOKK KOOM KOOM PROGRAM

Launched in 2018 to reach 10,000 households, the Yokk Koom Koom program has evolved into a national initiative that delivers a comprehensive productive inclusion package to households, enhancing their climate resilience and productive capacity.

A rigorous impact evaluation reveals significant and enduring positive effects on income generating activities, sustained three years after completing the productive inclusion interventions. This includes diversification of activities, increased business revenues and profits, and higher wage income. For instance, at the household level, annual business revenues of program participants were 25 percent higher than non participants. After three years, beneficiaries have significantly higher annual profits from their economic activities, an impact that had not yet materialized in the shorter term. Annual profits were 23 percent higher than non beneficiaries. This represents a substantial increase in income at both the beneficiary and household levels, and it shows that gains extend to the whole household beyond the individual participating in the program. Moreover, the positive effects on savings and household assets were maintained three years post intervention. For instance, recipients reported savings that were 92 percent higher compared to non beneficiaries. In terms of women's economic empowerment, the program sustained an increase in one measure of intra household dynamics and decision making—control over earnings—at 36 months for both female beneficiaries and the overall sample. The initial negative impact on gender attitudes diminished after 36 months, indicating that any adverse perceptions of women's participation in the program had lessened in light of the participants' accomplishments. While the impact on psychological and social well being was more modest, and the positive effects on consumption were not observed after 36 months (largely due to increased consumption among non beneficiaries who continued to receive regular cash transfers), the overall results support the government of Senegal's decision to expand the program to reach a cumulative 140,000 households nationally by 2027. Several factors will facilitate the program's expansion, including the relative cost effectiveness of the program due to its integration into the national safety net program. The program continues to be adapted based on field observations and evaluation results for the continued expansion.

### BUILDING BLOCK 3:

#### Finance

**During FY24, the World Bank team finalized a social protection public expenditure review and provided support to the disaster risk financing agenda.** The results of the public expenditure review, which provides a detailed analysis of the structure of social protection spending, have been used in the dialogue with our counterparts on the fiscal sustainability of the social protection system. The team also provided capacity building on the topic of disaster risk financing to the FSN and worked closely with the FCI GP on the assessment of climate and disaster risk financing, conducted at the request of the Ministry of Finance, to ensure that the financing needs of the FSN and the role that the FSN plays in shock response are recognized and reflected in climate and disaster risk financing strategies.

**During FY25, the team will prepare a diagnostic specific to the financing needs of the ASP system to respond to climate shocks.** The diagnostic will build on the general assessment of climate and disaster risk financing prepared in FY24. Additionally, with Senegal being one of the pathfinder countries for the Global Shield, the team will engage with the national stakeholders involved in the set up of the Global Shield Financing Facility against climate risks to ensure that social protection is considered as one of the disbursement/delivery mechanisms.

### BUILDING BLOCK 4:

#### Data and Information

**During FY24, support focused on the RNU as well as trigger mechanisms for shock response.** The team provided support to the DGPSN in the extension of the social registry to one million households, launched in July 2023. Initial bottlenecks

for the first phase of the extension included delays in establishing the monitoring committee for the extension of the RNU as well as in training the supervisors, community development services, and community relays. With support of the team, the RNU initiated the preparatory activities for the second phase, consisting of collecting data on households identified as poor or vulnerable by communities. These include a revision of the questionnaire to ensure it mirrors the data demands of user programs, as well as an update of the proxy means test model to distinguish between poor and non poor but vulnerable households. Technical assistance to the RNU also focused on improving the data collection methodology in coordination with the National Agency of Statistics and Demography and exploring the possibility of piloting on demand intake and registration modalities. In September 2023, in collaboration with the Pillar on Shock responsive delivery systems, the team organized a multi country workshop on social registries in Dakar. In April 2024, the team organized a study trip to Brazil for the RNU team

as well as key members of the DGPSN to learn about the Cadastro Único and its on demand data intake modality that allows for dynamic inclusion and continuous data updates. In the area of early warning systems, the team provided support to the FSN by elaborating an operations manual to guide the use of a satellite based trigger mechanism and through collaboration with the Senegal Meteorological Office to improve the flood response mechanism.

**In FY25, the team will continue its support of the social registry's expansion.** Building on FY24 activities, technical assistance will continue to support the implementation of the RNU expansion in coordination with the National Agency of Statistics and Demography. The team will also provide technical assistance for improving data safety and managing and sharing of the RNU data, which was initially planned for FY24 but had to be postponed to FY25 due to competing priorities.



**TABLE 11**

**Summary activities and outputs for SASPP engagement in Senegal**

<b>BUILDING BLOCKS</b>	<b>FY24 ACTUAL ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS</b>	<b>FY25 PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS</b>
<b>INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS</b>	Provided technical assistance for the preparation of a draft for the Social Protection Law.	Engage with the new ministry in charge of social protection to identify support needed to address key challenges and opportunities for the strengthening of the sector. Support a needs assessment in terms of decentralized staff, including costs associated with various scenarios.
	Continued to support the coordination among actors involved in the response to food insecurity and climate shocks.	Continue to support the coordination among actors involved in the response to food insecurity and climate shocks.
	Supported collaboration around the agricultural resilience program.	Engage with the new ministry in charge of agriculture and livestock to support the agricultural resilience program.
<b>PROGRAMS AND DELIVERY SYSTEMS</b>	Supported the government in preparing the recertification of PNBSF beneficiaries, including a clear communication campaign.	Support the implementation of the recertification of PNBSF beneficiaries.
	Ensured the smooth implementation of the Yock Koom Koom program and the Agricultural Resilience Program.	Improve the Yock Koom Koom package to tailor the program to the needs of rural populations, adjust to local languages, and boost resilience to climate change.
	Revised the accompanying measures of the PNBSF program (in collaboration with the Human Capital pillar).	Support the implementation of the new accompanying measures to the new cohort of PNBSF beneficiaries post recertification.
	Supported the DGPSN and FSN in strengthening the payment platform and GRM system.	Support the preparation of a roadmap for the digitization of PNBSF payments and the improvements of the GRM system.
	Disseminated results of the exceptional transfer program evaluation, including options to improve the timeliness of payments.	Prepare and disseminate a report with the short- and medium term results of the Yock Koom Koom.
	Prepared a needs assessment and drafted a roadmap for improving the MIS of the DGPSN and FSN.	Develop MIS for ASP programs.
<b>FINANCE</b>	Finalized and disseminated results of the public expenditure review.	
	Provided technical assistance to the FSN to ensure better financial preparedness. Initiated an assessment of climate and disaster risk financing in place.	Prepare a diagnostic of financing needs of the ASP system to finance regular safety net programs and respond to climate shocks, based on the assessment of climate and disaster risk financing modalities. Support the FSN in the discussion around financing mechanisms and financing opportunities such as the global shield financing facility.
<b>DATA AND INFORMATION</b>	Worked closely with the RNU to support the extension of the RNU, including revisions to the harmonized questionnaire based on user needs and updating of the proxy means test model to distinguish between poor and non poor but vulnerable households.	Provide support to ensure quality standards are met during RNU data collection. Support the RNU in preparing a continuous updating strategy and a potential pilot for an on demand data intake modality.
	Supported the FSN through the elaboration of an operations manual to guide the use of a satellite based trigger mechanism and through collaboration with the Senegal Meteorological Office to improve the flood response mechanism.	



# APPENDIXES

## APPENDIX 1 RESULTS FRAMEWORK

### END TARGETS BASELINE

### ANNUAL TARGETS

### ACHIEVED

		BASELINE				ANNUAL TARGETS				ACHIEVED		
						FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY22	FY23	FY24
<b>1. GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS</b>												
1.1	Cumulative number of technical and advisory outputs on institutional arrangements	4	20	8	13	19	20			9	13	17
1.2	Degree of recognition of role of ASP in Disaster Risk Management in national policy or strategy documents [scale of 1-5]	2.33	3.00				3.00					
1.3	Number of countries where WB has an ongoing MoU with WFP and/or UNICEF	3	6	3	4	6	6			3	4	4
1.4	Number of governments who have committed own financing to shock response through ASP mechanisms	0	3	0	1	1	3			0	2	2
1.5	Number of governments who sustained financing to shock response through ASP mechanisms over multiple years	0	2	0	0	1	2			0	0	1
<b>2. PROGRAMMES AND THEIR DELIVERY SYSTEMS</b>												
2.1	Cumulative number of households benefitting from climate-shock response cash transfers (CT) funded by SASPP		160,000	2,000	116,000	150,000	160,000			7,700	154,052	185,521
2.2	Cumulative number of individuals benefitting from climate shock-response CT funded by SASPP		1,006,000	14,000	740,000	946,000	1,006,000			64,680	963,392	1,212,446
2.3	Cumulative number of women benefitting from climate shock-response CT funded by SASPP		503,000	7,000	370,000	473,000	503,000			32,340	488,436	612,953
2.4	Annual number of households benefitting from climate shock-response CT funded by SASPP		119,000	2,000	114,000	119,000	10,000			7,700	146,352	130,526
2.5	Annual number of individuals benefitting from climate shock-response CT funded by SASPP		726,000	14,000	726,000	716,000	60,000			64,680	898,712	843,376
2.6	Annual number of female recipients of climate shock-response CT funded by SASPP		151,900	1,000	142,900	151,900	0			7,520	176,995	174,364
2.7	Annual number of women benefitting from climate shock-response CT funded by SASPP		363,000	7,000	363,000	358,000	30,000			32,340	456,096	421,688
2.8	Annual number of children aged 0-5 benefitting from climate shock-response CT funded by SASPP											
2.9	Annual number of individuals with disabilities benefitting from climate shock-response CT funded by SASPP											
2.10	Annual number of households benefitting COVID-19 CT funded by SASPP		224,948	224,948	30,000	30,000				130,097	84,115	1,862
2.11	Annual number of individuals benefitting from COVID-19 CT funded by SASPP		1,726,568	1,726,568	210,000	210,000				866,206	751,150	18,620
2.12	Annual number of female recipients of COVID-19 CT funded by SASPP		167,574	167,574	15,000	15,000				229,299	339,690	11,172
2.13	Annual number of women benefitting from COVID-19 CT funded by SASPP		863,284	863,284	105,000	105,000				433,103	375,575	9,310
2.14	Annual number of children aged 0-5 benefitting from COVID-19 CT funded by SASPP									104,405	101,204	1,676
2.15	Annual number of individuals with disabilities benefitting from COVID-19 CT funded by SASPP									9,998	12,923	372
2.16	Cumulative number of individuals receiving productive inclusion activities funded by SASPP	46,789	109,989	52,789	79,989	99,989	109,989			46,789	72,763	103,034
2.17	Cumulative number of women receiving productive inclusion activities funded by SASPP	29,434	65,762	32,434	49,262	60,762	65,762			29,434	54,911	77,737
2.18	Cumulative number of technical and advisory outputs on productive inclusion funded by SASPP	0	6	4	6	6	6			4	10	13
2.19	% of payments that are digital (applies to all payments except where noted otherwise)	20%	36%	27%	29%	29%	36%			23%	33%	57%
2.20	% of payments that are done on time (as per the operational guidelines, applies to all payments except when noted otherwise)	86%	89%	86%	87%	88%	89%			81%	86%	**79%
2.21	Number of countries with shock-response mechanism informed by results from impact evaluations	0	3	0	0	1	3			0	0	0
2.22	Share of GRM complaints resolved in a timely manner (as per the operational guidelines, applies to all complaints except where noted otherwise)	68%	79%	61%	67%	72%	79%			79%	75%	***70%
2.23	Cumulative number of technical and advisory outputs on adapting to insecurity and forced displacement	0	14	8	12	14	14			8	13	14
2.24	Cumulative number of technical and advisory outputs on the link between human capital and climate change, and accompanying measures	0	12	4	8	12	12			4	12	14
<b>3. FINANCE</b>												
3.1	Number of countries that have adopted disaster risk financing strategy for ASP	0	4	1	1	2	4			1	1	1
3.2	Degree of readiness of financing to ensure timely response to disasters [scale of 1-5]	2.00	2.8				2.8					
3.3	Cumulative number of technical and advisory outputs on risk financing	3	10	4	8	9	10			5	9	10
<b>4. DATA AND INFORMATION</b>												
4.1	Cumulative number of households in social registries	1,665,000	4,194,000	2,677,000	2,992,000	3,844,000	4,194,000	2,756,295	2,803,150			****
4.2	Number of households in the registry, relative to the number of poor households	39%	76%	50%	55%	72%	76%	52%	57%			68%
4.3	Share of households in the registry with up-to-date information, as per the operational guidelines		65%	88%	83%	90%	65%	75%	73%			89%
4.4	Cumulative number of technical and advisory outputs on adaptive social registries	7	22	11	14	20	22			11	15	23
4.5	Number of countries with second ASP stress test	0	6	0	0	0	6			0	0	0
4.6	Cumulative number of technical and advisory outputs on poverty and vulnerability	6	14	9	11	14	14			11	17	28
4.7	Degree of ability of national early warning systems to monitor and alert about one or more shocks [scale 1-5]	2.83	3.33				3.33					

Notes: \* maximum achieved for annual targets

\*\* The decrease is driven by the fact that Niger did not contribute to the count in FY24 (it reached 96% in FY23) and a decrease in the ratio in Mauritania from 54 to 33%

\*\*\* The decrease is mostly driven by the fact that Niger did not contribute to the count in FY24 (it reached 100% in FY23)

\*\*\*\* In Senegal, the first phase of the registry expansion has been completed (adding more than 500,000 new households). The process is expected to be finalized in FY25



# APPENDIXES

## APPENDIX 2 SASPP FUNDING

### TABLE 12

Investment Projects Supporting ASP and Contribution from SASPP, Phases 1 and 2, 2014–24

	Parent Project ID	Project Name	Board Approval Date	Resource Allocation, US\$ millions			
				IDA	Government	SASPP	
						Phase 1	Phase 2
Burkina Faso	P124015*	Burkina Faso: Social Safety Net Project	Apr 2014	50			
	P160371*	Burkina Faso: Additional Financing for Social Safety Net Project	Dec 2016			6	
	P169252	Burkina Faso: Scale-Up and Responding to the Needs of Refugees and Host Communities	May 2019	100			10
	P173335	Burkina Faso: Third Additional Financing for the Social Safety Net Project	Jul 2021				30
Chad	P156479*	Safety Nets project	Sep 2016			5	
	P164748*	Chad: Refugees and Host Communities Support Project	Sep 2018	60			
	P172255	Chad: Additional Financing to Refugees and Host Communities Support Project	Sep 2020	75			6
	P502142	Chad Adaptive and Productive Safety Nets Project	Jun 2024	100			20
Mali	P127328	Emergency Safety Nets project (Jigisemejiri)	Apr 2013	70			
	P157892*	Safety Nets Project (Jigisemejiri)	Sep 2016			10	
	P165064*	Safety Nets Project (Jigisemejiri)	Jul 2018	52			2.4
Mauritania	P150430*	Mauritania: Social Safety Net System Project	May 2015	15	10	4	
	P171125	Mauritania: Social Safety Net System Project 2	Mar 2020	45	20		7
	P175778	Mauritania: Additional Financing for the Social Safety Net System Project 2	Apr 2021				13
	P181523	Social Safety Net System Project II second Additional Financing	Apr 2024	26			10
Niger	P155846*	Niger Adaptive Safety Net Project	Apr 2016	22.5		8.5	
	P166602*	Niger Adaptive Safety Net Project 2	Jan 2019	80			
	P173013	Niger Adaptive Safety Net Project 2 Additional Financing	Mar 2021	100			30
Senegal	P133597*	Senegal Safety Net Project	Apr 2014	40.5			
	P156160*	Social Safety Net	Aug 2016			11.05	
	P162354*	Senegal: Additional Financing to the Social Safety Net Project	Jan 2019	57			
	P173344	Third additional financing for Social Safety Net Project	Jun 2021	80			30
	P176544	Adaptive Safety Net	Jul 2022	100			
<b>TOTAL:</b>				<b>1073</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>44.55</b>	<b>158.4</b>

Notes: \* indicates project is closed. Note that government funding only includes funds allocated to the projects themselves and does not include resources allocated by Government to ASP outside IDA projects. For Phase 1, total amount represents committed amounts (the actual disbursed amounts were US\$42.02 millions).

### TABLE 13

Status of Donor Contributions, as of June 2024 (Phase 2)

Donor Name	Currency	Amount in Country Currency	Amount in US\$	Contributions received	Contributions pending
United Kingdom— Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office	GBP	17,100,000	21,857,406	14,897,156	6,960,250
	USD		2,577,292*	2,577,292	
Wellspring Philanthropic Fund	USD	1,350,000	1,350,000	1,350,000	
France—Agence Française de Développement	EUR	6,000,000	7,026,000	7,026,000	
Germany— Bundesministerium für Wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit	EUR	130,000,000	153,444,150	153,444,150	
Denmark—Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs	DKK	230,000,000	34,676,350	34,676,350	
<b>Total</b>			<b>220,931,198</b>	<b>213,970,948</b>	<b>6,960,250</b>

Note: \* Funds rolled over from phase 1. Wellspring Foundation was also a donor until April 2022.

### TABLE 14

Financial Status of Recipient-Executed Trust Funds, US\$ millions, as of June 2024 (Phase 2)\*

Trust Fund Name	Grant Amount	Disbursements	Fund Balance
<b>Active Trust Funds</b>			
Burkina Faso: Scale-Up and Responding to the Needs of Refugees and Host Communities	10,000,000	9,998,070	1,930
Burkina Faso: Third Additional Financing to the Social Safety Net Project	30,000,000	22,914,212	7,085,788
Chad: ASPP RETF additional financing Refugees and Host Communities Support Project in Chad	6,000,000	5,589,664	410,336
Mali: Safety Nets Project (Jigisemejiri)*	20,000,000	0	20,000,000
Mauritania: Adaptive Social Protection	7,000,000	7,000,000	-
Mauritania: ASP additional financing	13,000,000	12,999,960	40
Mauritania: Social Safety Net System Project II second Additional Financing	10,000,000	0	10,000,000
Niger: Adaptive Safety Net Project additional financing 2	30,000,000	2,408,268	27,591,732
Senegal: Safety Net additional financing	30,000,000	23,698,119	6,301,881
<b>For reference: Closed Trust Funds</b>			
Mali: Safety Nets Project (Jigisemejiri)	2,400,000	1,122,269	1,277,731
<b>Total</b>	<b>158,400,000</b>	<b>85,730,562</b>	<b>71,391,707</b>

\* Note: In addition to AFD's first contribution to the SASPP MDTF funded activities, the AFD has provided parallel co-financing to Mauritania (7.5 million Euros 2021–25).

### TABLE 15

Financial Status of Regional Bank-Executed Trust Funds, US\$ millions, as of June 2024 (Phase 2)

Trust Fund Name	Original Budget	Commitments	Expenses	Available Budget
Human capital and Overall Regional Program	2,900,000	147,790	2,633,468	118,742
Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience	1,150,000	95,067	1,048,593	6,340
Shock-Responsive Social Protection	2,010,000	50,357	1,613,162	346,481
Productive Inclusion and Women's Empowerment	2,100,000	49,890	2,022,750	27,360
Fragility and Forced Displacement	1,400,000	0	1,381,575	18,425
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,560,000</b>	<b>343,104</b>	<b>8,699,548</b>	<b>517,348</b>

Note that activities under the ASP and Human Capital Pillar are financed under the "Overall Regional Program" account.

### TABLE 16

Financial Status of Country Bank-Executed Trust Funds, US\$ millions, as of June 2024 (Phase 2)

Trust Fund Name	Original Budget	Commitments	Expenses	Available Budget
Burkina Faso	1,950,000	114,862	1,730,540	104,598
Chad	2,385,208	30,967	2,345,803	8,437
Mali	1,700,000	0	1,324,990	375,010
Mauritania	2,450,000	231,591	2,039,632	178,777
Niger	3,350,000	69,943	3,179,020	101,036
Senegal	1,900,000	75,821	1,388,943	435,186
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,735,208</b>	<b>523,185</b>	<b>12,008,978</b>	<b>1,203,045</b>

### TABLE 17

Financial Status of Management/Supervision Bank-Executed Trust Funds, US\$ millions, as of June 2024 (Phase 2)

Trust Fund Name	Original Budget	Commitments	Expenses	Available Budget
ASPP Regional Coordination Management and Administration	3,699,000	74,806	3,550,635	73,559
Burkina Faso	450,000	0	341,044	108,956
Chad	300,000	0	299,994	6
Mauritania	750,000	153,625	456,429	139,946
Niger	600,000	0	597,980	2,020
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,799,000</b>	<b>228,431</b>	<b>5,246,082</b>	<b>324,488</b>

# APPENDIXES

## APPENDIX 3 PUBLICATIONS

This list presents publications prepared during FY24. For a comprehensive listing of SASPP publications since its inception, please refer to our [website](#). This list also includes older documents that have undergone edits/updates or translation during FY24 (original publication date given in parentheses).

PUBLICATION CATEGORY AND NAME	COUNTRY/PILLAR
<b>SASPP POLICY NOTES</b>	
Convergence in the Sahel: How to Link Humanitarian Cash Assistance and National Social Protection Systems? La Convergence au Sahel : Comment lier l'aide humanitaire sous forme de transferts monétaires et les systèmes nationaux de protection sociale?	Fragility
<b>SASPP FLAGSHIP REPORT</b>	
Stress Testing Adaptive Social Protection Systems in the Sahel	All
<b>SASPP ANNUAL REPORT</b>	
Sahel Adaptive Social Protection Program Annual Report 2023	All
<b>SASPP TECHNICAL PAPERS</b>	
Determinants of Childhood Undernutrition in the Sahel	Human Capital
Sept Leçons Opérationnelles des Mesures d'Inclusion Productive dans le Sahel	Productive Inclusion
Rapport de Diagnostic : Environnement des Paiements Sociaux au Burkina Faso avec CGAP	Delivery Systems/ Burkina Faso
Le Projet Yokk Koom Koom au Sénégal - Résumé et messages clés	Productive Inclusion/ Senegal
Impact des mesures d'inclusion productive du programme Burkin Naong Sa Ya au Burkina Faso (2019-2020)	Burkina Faso
Capitalisation de la réponse soudure 2023 au Burkina Faso	Burkina Faso
Improving School Readiness in the Sahel: The Role of Adaptive Social Protection Programmes	Human Capital
Résumé des Rapports d'Évaluation : Opération de Transferts Monétaires Exceptionnels au Sénégal [Full reports available in others section]	Senegal
<b>ASP IN BRIEF</b>	
Planification et coordination de la réponse soudure au Burkina Faso (2021-2024)	Burkina Faso
<b>BLOGS</b>	
Improving the Cash Transfer Process with Mobile Technologies: Lessons from Mali	Mali
How Clean Cooking Solutions can Help Protect Human Capital in Sub-Saharan Africa	Human Capital
Fragile Contexts, Strong Partnership: Supporting Adaptive Social Protection in the Sahel	All
World Bank-UN partnership: Fragility Forum UN-World Bank partnerships in the Sahel	All
L'inclusion financière via les paiements sociaux numériques : un objectif atteignable?	Burkina Faso



<b>MULTIMEDIA</b>	
Dieynaba Diallo short clip from full intervention at 60th ceremony in Mauritania (In French with subtitles in English)	Mauritania
Video Activités et le soutien du PPSAS au Tchad SASPP activities and support in Chad video	Chad
Animation Video: What is Adaptive Social Protection? Video Animation : Qu'est-ce que la Protection Sociale Adaptative ?	Poverty and Vulnerability
<b>OTHER PUBLICATION TYPES</b>	
Executive Summary of the Stress Testing Adaptive Social Protection Systems in the Sahel	All
Recherche qualitative sur l'assurance maladie non contributive pour les bénéficiaires de Jigiséméjiri	Human Capital
Atelier technique multi-pays sur les registres sociaux - 2-5 octobre - Dakar	Delivery Systems
Stress Testing ASP in Sahel 2024 - 14 findings and 18 recommendations	All
Atelier sur la protection social au Mali - Impact des Filets Sociaux Productifs sur les Ménages Vulnérables	Mali
ASP Strong Impacts in the Sahel Vertical and Horizontal infographic	Poverty and Vulnerability
Financing Adaptive Social Protection in Burkina Faso: Disaster Risk Financing Diagnostic (In collaboration with the Center for Disaster Protection) Financement de la protection sociale adaptative au Burkina Faso - Diagnostic sur le financement des risques de catastrophe (Center for Disaster Protection)	Burkina Faso
Considerations for the design of Productive Accompanying Measures for the Social Safety Net Beneficiaries in the Sahel (2017) Considérations Initiales pour la Conception des Mesures Productives d'Accompagnement pour les Bénéficiaires des Filets Sociaux dans le Sahel (2017)	Productive Inclusion
Rapport d'évaluation d'impact : du Programme National de Bourses de Sécurité Familiale (PNBSF)	Senegal
Seasonal deprivation in the Sahel is large, widespread, and can be anticipated (Journal Taylor and Francis)	Poverty and Vulnerability
Summary of qualitative and quantitative evaluation of the exceptional cash transfer (in response to COVID19 and Ukrainian war)	Senegal
Senegal and Cabo Verde exchange visit to Brazil - Cadastro Único Presentation	Senegal/ Delivery Systems
Burkina Faso Economic Update Special chapter on Social Protection	Burkina Faso