



# SAHEL ADAPTIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION PROGRAM



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# SAHEL ADAPTIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION PROGRAM

**ANNUAL REPORT | Fiscal Year 2025**

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**SAHEL ADAPTIVE  
SOCIAL PROTECTION  
PROGRAM**



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and Development



## SASPP COUNTRIES



# ABBREVIATIONS

## **ACLED**

Armed Conflict Location and Event Data

## **AFD**

Agence Française de Développement (French Development Agency)

## **ANATS**

Agence Nationale des Titres Sécurisés—Chad

## **ANSD**

Agence Nationale de la Statistique et de la Démographie (Statistical Office)—Senegal

## **ASP**

Adaptive Social Protection

## **BMZ**

German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

## **CDP**

Centre for Disaster Protection

## **CERDI**

Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches sur le Développement International

## **CGAP**

Consultative Group to Assist the Poor

## **DCAN**

Dispositif National de Prévention et de Réponse aux Crises Alimentaires et Nutritionnelles (National Food and Nutrition Crisis Prevention and Response Framework)—Mauritania

## **DGPSN**

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

## **ECHO**

European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations

## **ECOWAS**

Economic Community of West African State

## **EHCVM**

Enquête Harmonisée sur les Conditions de Vie des Ménages

## **EWS**

Early Warning System

## **FCDO**

United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

## **FCV**

Fragility, Conflict, and Violence FNRCAN National Fund for Response to Food and Nutrition Crises—Mauritania

## **FSN**

Fonds de Solidarité Nationale (National Solidarity Fund)—Senegal

## **FY**

Fiscal Year

## **GIZ**

German Agency for International Cooperation

## **GRM**

Grievance Redress Mechanism

## **IDA**

International Development Association

## **IMF**

International Monetary Fund

## **LEWIE**

Local Economy Wide Impact Evaluation

## **MDTF**

Multi-Donor Trust Fund

## **MIS**

Management Information System

## **NGO**

Non-governmental Organization

## **PAMPV**

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

## **PARCA**

Refugees and Host Communities Support 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

## **SQ-LNS**

Small-Quantity Lipid-based Nutrient Supplements

## **SWEDD**

Sub-Saharan Africa Women's Empowerment and Demographic Dividend

## **SWIFT**

Survey of Well-being via Instant and Frequent Tracking

## **UNHCR**

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

## **UNICEF**

United Nations Children's Fund

## **WB**

World Bank

## **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 World Bank 2025 Fiscal Year (FY25 – from July 2024 to June 2025), 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 their 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 French Development Agency (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 that are 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 FY25. 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 annual report demonstrates how, despite the political and institutional developments in the region, national authorities have continued to strengthen the institutional anchorage of ASP systems, improve cooperation among actors, and foster the connection between emergency needs and long-term responses. The SASPP results framework highlights the program's achievements in FY25, demonstrating progress across the four building blocks and closely aligning with the initial targets established at the inception of the program. Regarding system development, the number of households registered in social registries across the six countries increased by over 20% in FY25, reaching approximately 4.2 million households. In terms of support to beneficiaries, the SASPP has surpassed its initial objective by reaching a cumulative total of 1.2 million individuals across the six countries, exceeding the FY25 target by 17%, which equates to more than 200,000 additional individuals.



# 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 was 40 percent in 2021, with 28 percent of the population living on less than 2.15\$ a day on average. Countries in the region figure among the 35 countries with the lowest Human Capital Index scores globally (data from 2020), with three of them among the bottom four worldwide. Children born in the region in 2020 were expected to only achieve between 30 and 42 percent of their potential productivity by their 18th birthday, compared to what they could achieve with 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 supported by the Sahel Adaptive Social Protection Program (SASPP) 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.

**Insecurity and fragility continued to deteriorate in the region over the past years, particularly in the tri-border area of Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger. Increased conflict and insecurity have resulted in continuously high forced displacement.** As of May 2025, there were over 1.5 million refugees across the region (over 1.3 million in Chad and 140,000 in Mauritania) and around 3 million internally displaced people, mostly in Burkina Faso (over 2 million), Chad (220,000), Mali, and Niger (over 700,000). The refugee crisis in Chad has been further exacerbated by ongoing conflict in Sudan, especially following the outbreak of civil war in 2023. More than 600,000 Sudanese refugees have fled into eastern Chad, overwhelming local communities and placing immense pressure on already limited humanitarian resources such as food, shelter, and medical aid. This has resulted in rapidly escalating needs for both refugees and host populations.

**The convergence of climate change, conflict, and shrinking humanitarian resources is expected to make the 2025 lean season (June–August) the worst in over a decade.** An estimated 13.5 million people are projected to face acute food insecurity, exceeding the record levels seen in 2024. The situation is particularly dire in northern Mali and Burkina Faso, where conflict continues to displace populations and disrupt agricultural activity. The crisis has been exacerbated by a drastic cut in humanitarian funding, which has forced major humanitarian partners to scale back food assistance and resilience programs at a time of rising need.

**Adaptive social protection 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. Strong impacts were demonstrated 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.

**Looking forward, strengthening national, government-led ASP systems remains a critical policy priority for reducing chronic poverty, addressing crises, and bolstering resilience against climate change.**

Stronger ASP systems also help reduce the reliance on humanitarian responses to those increasingly structural and chronic or recurrent challenges. 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 the expansion of 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 the relevance and impacts of ASP; political commitment at the local and national levels; strong engagement by the international community; clear institutional anchoring of programs and systems.

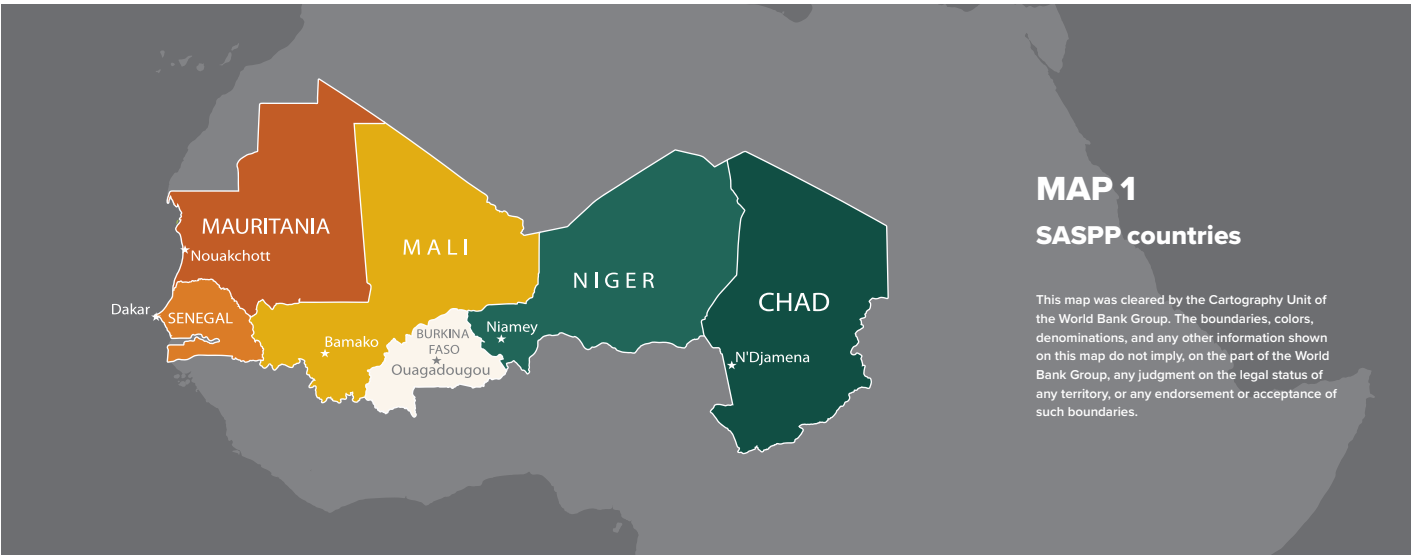


## 2

# THE SAHEL ADAPTIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION PROGRAM: OBJECTIVE AND STRUCTURE

The Sahel Adaptive Social Protection Program (SASPP) is funded by a multi-donor trust fund (MDTF) with contributions from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ); the French Development Agency (Agence Française de Développement – AFD); the Denmark Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and the United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (FCDO).

Its objective is to support six Sahelian countries—Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, and Senegal—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 (see Map 1).

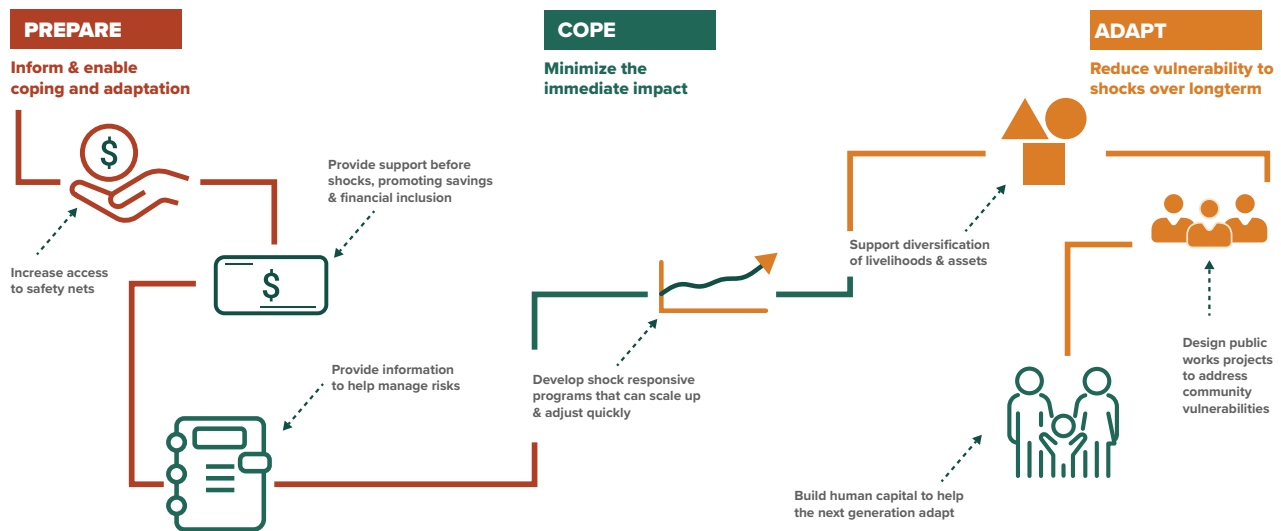


## BOX 1 WHAT IS ADAPTIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION?

**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 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 system that is flexible and responsive to changing needs and risks faced by households. ASP systems include regular safety net and economic inclusion programs, as well as 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?



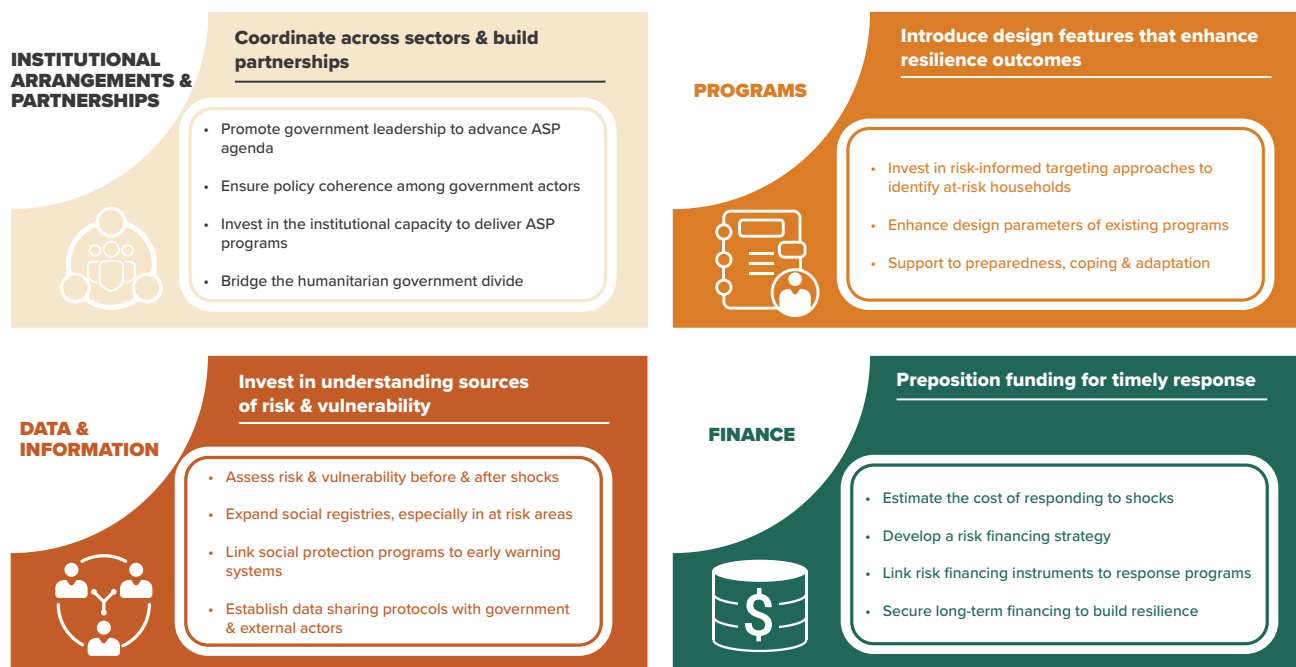
Source: World Bank (2020). <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/infographic/2020/09/17/adaptive-social-protection>

**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 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:** Social registries to ensure ASP programs are able to 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 clearly articulate roles and responsibilities and ensure government leadership in the coordination and alignment of 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 provides 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 being 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 various 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 in the six Sahelian countries.** A core management team manages the day-to-day operations of the MDTF, prepares the strategic directions of the program, and monitors the SASPP portfolio based on its results framework. Additionally, together with the regional staff, the core management team promotes knowledge exchanges and peer learning and ensures the alignment of the SASPP work program with the broader ASP agenda of the World Bank. Once a year, the SASPP management team and donors come together 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.



## 3

# SASPP IMPLEMENTATION OVERVIEW DURING FY25

### 3.1 SUMMARY OF SASPP FY25 IMPLEMENTATION (JULY 2024-JUNE 2025)

Overall, since the inception of the SASPP in 2014, the MDTF has allocated US\$277 million to investment projects in the six countries as part of IDA engagement. Phase 2 has so far allocated US\$175.7 million (US\$40 in Burkina Faso, US\$26 million in Chad, US\$17.4 million in Mali, US\$32.3 million in Mauritania, US\$30 million in Niger, and US\$30 million in Senegal, see Tables 13 and 15 in Appendix 2).<sup>1</sup> In addition to the new operation in Chad approved in June 2024 which became effective in FY25, a new operation was approved in Mali in April 2025 with SASPP contribution amounting to US\$15 million. The new operation in Mali is part of a project dedicated to women’s empowerment, with a focus on supporting the development of national ASP systems as well as the delivery of economic inclusion interventions to poor and vulnerable women. New engagements in Burkina Faso and Niger are expected to further contribute to SASPP funding to national ASP systems in the coming

fiscal year. As can be seen from Table 13 in Appendix 2, the SASPP leveraged significant IDA financing (overall around US\$1,133 million).

While areas of support vary across countries, recipient-executed activities have focused on ASP systems, program design and expansion, institutional arrangements, and financing mechanisms, along the four ASP building blocks. Section 5 below provides details for the ongoing recipient-executed support for each country. Overall, SASPP’s recipient-executed activities have focused on financing systems-building—social registries, payment systems, early warning systems (EWS)—institutional arrangements (coordination mechanisms, strategies, triggers, etc.), shock response (to address the impacts of both COVID-19 and climate-related shocks, including droughts and floods, and provide support to refugees and host communities), as well as support to ASP financing mechanisms.

In addition to the recipient-executed activities, SASPP has supported the deployment of in-depth technical assistance on a broad range of issues in each country. So far, around

<sup>1</sup> Around US\$8 million funds allocated to Burkina Faso’s project and US\$27 million allocated to Niger’s project were cancelled (see section 5).

US\$17.8 million has been allocated to country-specific technical assistance during Phase 2 (of which US\$15.9 million has been committed or disbursed, see Table 17 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 to ensure a strong presence on the ground. Sustaining a rich portfolio of technical assistance during periods when recipient-executed projects were not implemented ensured a continuous engagement at the technical and policy levels, a critical element to renewed operational support. In each country, teams implement a series of activities across multiple areas, depending on the needs of our counterparts. These are summarized below under Section 5, which is organized along the four building blocks of ASP. The SASPP also supports the expenditure associated with the supervision of Country-Executed Trust Funds, as well as the management and administration of the overall program (about US\$6.7 million, see Table 18 in Appendix 2).

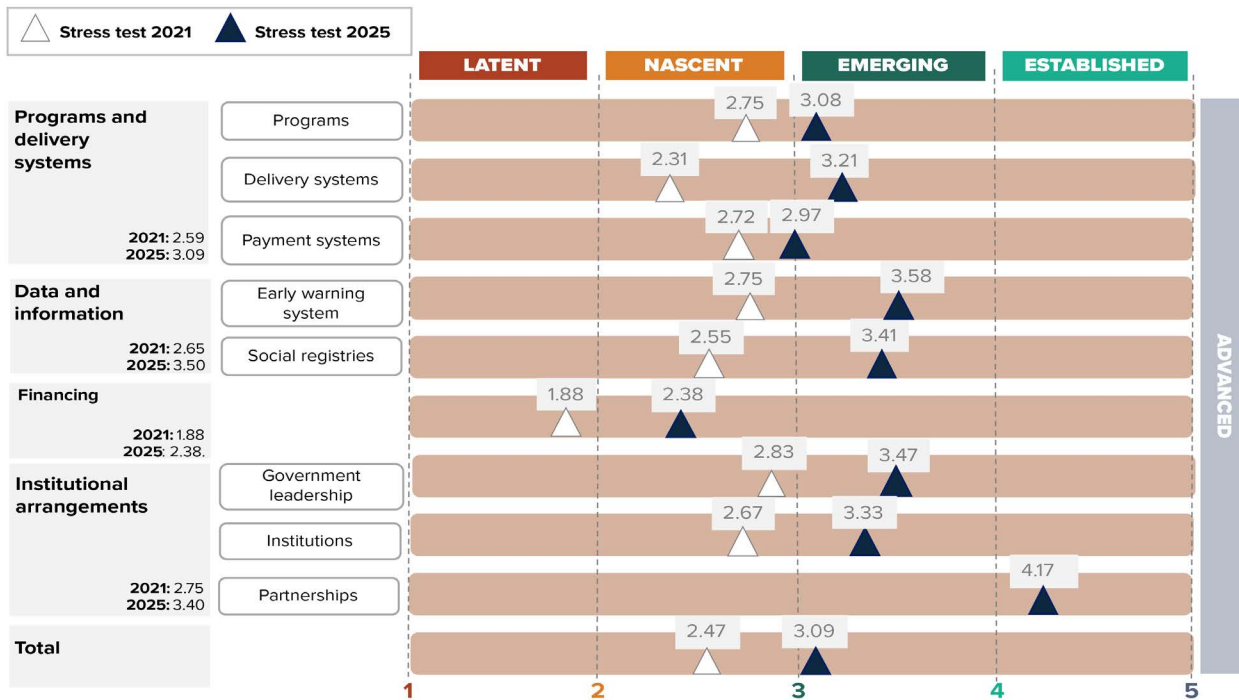
**The progress realized by countries in some of the ASP agenda’s dimensions is highlighted by the results of the recent ASP Stress Test.** This assessment tool is built to provide insights into a country’s ability to adapt or scale its social protection system in response to shocks and helps identify priority areas for improvement. The stress test was conducted in all SASPP countries in 2021/2022, and their analysis was summarized in our 2023 flagship publication [“Stress Testing Adaptive Social Protection Systems in the Sahel”](#). The stress tests were replicated at the end of FY25 in all SASPP countries in partnership with the World Food

Programme (WFP) and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF). Comparing the status of these systems 3 to 4 years apart provides critical insights into the areas where progress has been the most marked and areas that will require additional investments in the coming years. Those areas will guide both the regional program (see Section 4) as well as the technical assistance deployed by the SASPP team and its partners in each country.

**While a thorough analysis will be undertaken during FY26 in partnership with UNICEF and WFP, preliminary overall results for 2025 suggest significant progress, despite a complex environment.** Aggregate results are presented in Figure 2 and show a clear progression across each building block and an overall transition from “nascent” (2.47) to “emerging” (3.09). While disparities exist between countries in the region, all six have demonstrated progress, even within fragile and unstable contexts. The regional approach, characterized by varying levels of advancement across the building blocks, provides a strong foundation for shared learning within SASPP. The financing building block remains at the “nascent” stage, with limited progress observed across all countries. As a result, it has been identified as a priority for Phase 3 of the regional program, with the first five activities focused on this area (see Table 1 below). Progress on payment systems has also faced challenges, with an average score still in the “nascent” category, an area which is expected to remain central to the technical assistance in all countries. A regional publication in partnership with UNICEF and WFP is planned for FY26, building on an extensive analysis of the stress test results.



**FIGURE 3** Aggregate progress along the four ASP building blocks – 2021/22 to 2025



At the regional level, SASPP has supported a broad regional analytical work and knowledge exchange agenda to serve strategic country-level needs, allocating a total of around US\$11.1 million to these elements in Phase 2 (see Table 16 in Appendix 2). FY25 activities under the five pillars are presented in detail in Section 4 below. They have contributed to regional knowledge sharing and South-South learning events (for instance, a regional technical workshop on national safety net program), the generation of deepened knowledge (for instance, on the spill-overs of safety nets in the local economy and the long-term impacts of productive inclusion measures); detailed diagnostics (for instance on disaster risk financing landscapes); operational guidance (for instance on implementing social safety nets in contexts of Fragility, Conflict and Violence (FCV); as well as the creation of advocacy materials to foster government buy-in and long-term sustainability (for instance, the infographic on the impacts of ASP in the Sahel and associated country notes). The results framework shows the progress realized in the production of key technical and advisory outputs on the four building blocks, 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.

In FY25, the SASPP continued to harness its rich partnership with UNICEF and WFP at the regional level. At the regional level, SASPP’s partnership was further strengthened at the technical level (for example, with SASPP supporting a regional workshop on national social protection programs hosted by the Government of Mauritania, which brought government representatives from 11 countries—Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Côte d’Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Senegal, and Tunisia—along with participants from the World Bank, WFP, UNICEF, and IOM and a joint research program on social cohesion), on the strategic level (for example, with a learning exchange visit for ministerial delegations from Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger to learn from the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) in Pakistan jointly organized with the regional WFP team), as well as on the operational level, with an effort to provide coordinated guidance on ASP delivery (for instance with the [joint publication](#) of a set of standards for ASP instruments in the Sahel).

In addition, SASPP supports rich collaborations at the country level, coordinating our support to governments with UNICEF and WFP. The collaboration takes various forms, depending on the priorities established by governments and the policy, technical, and operational engagement of

each actor in each context. In Mauritania, the collaboration is anchored in a formal Memorandum of Understanding and is particularly effective in supporting the government national shock response framework (with WFP). In Chad, the three partners have established a Joint Task Force, with a clear roadmap, regular meetings, and agreed action points focused on policy dialogue, technical support for ASP systems (e.g. the social registry), as well as joint training sessions for key stakeholders. In Burkina Faso, the three partners rotate in the presidency of the social protection donor group, and collaboration has included the provision of joint trainings on ASP, the joint implementation of the stress test, as well as coordination of dialogue and missions. In Mali, the collaboration with UNICEF and WFP is structured through a tripartite plan, encompassing most activities supported by the SASPP. In Niger, the three institutions collaborated on the COVID-19 response, productive inclusion, drought response, revision of the social protection policy, and development of the social registry. Finally, the collaboration in Senegal has included the joint participation in the application of the ASP stress test.

**During FY25, SASPP has also fostered several key partnerships to ensure alignment and complementarity in advancing ASP initiatives across the Sahel.** First, collaboration with humanitarian actors—primarily the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO)—is essential, as they play a significant role in shock response efforts, such as lean season assistance and support to internally displaced persons and refugees. Operational coordination has proven critical to harmonize implementation modalities, including transfer amounts and duration, ensure appropriate geographic coverage, and prevent duplication of aid (as is the case in Mauritania). Second, SASPP actively participates in regular technical and policy dialogues on food security, led by the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (Comité permanent Inter-États de Lutte contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel) with support from the Sahel and West Africa Club of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA). These efforts aim to integrate ASP instruments—such as social registries or safety net programs—into national strategies for food security and resilience. Third, SASPP engages with key regional policy actors, including the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), to promote the inclusion of ASP principles in country- and

region-level policy dialogues. As a result, the social protection framework and accompanying operational plan adopted by ECOWAS in November 2023 are underpinned by strong ASP foundations. Additionally, with IMF support, the Governments of Burkina Faso and Chad have committed financing to their national safety net program, while in Mauritania, funding has been secured for the shock-responsive safety net response.

**The SASPP results framework presented in Appendix 1 highlights progress made during FY25.** Since the results framework was defined in FY21, covering FY21-25, the results this year can also be analyzed in terms of the overall success of the program towards achieving the end targets set at the start of the program. Overall, despite the political and institutional developments in the region, national authorities have continued to strengthen the institutional anchorage of ASP systems, improve cooperation among actors, and foster the connection between emergency needs and long-term responses. During FY25, progress has been made across the four building blocks, closely aligning with the initial targets established at the inception of the program, though some areas remain a challenge, as discussed below:

**Under the “Programs and Delivery Systems” building block, SASPP has exceeded its initial objectives.** SASPP has provided shock-response support to a cumulative total of 1,264,000 individuals across the six countries, surpassing the end target by 17% (by more than 250,000 individuals). The number of women benefitting have also seen significant growth, with programs reaching over 635,000 women (surpassing the target of 503,000). The target number of individuals benefitting from economic inclusion program has almost been met (103,000 versus a target of 110,000), with a significant share of women among them (77,700 versus a target of 65,700). In addition, the planned and ongoing expansion of productive inclusion programs in Chad, Mali, Senegal and Mauritania, as well as the proposed focus of new operations in Niger and Burkina Faso, testify to the future continued expansion of these programs, initially tested with SASPP support. In terms of delivery, the share of digital payments has surged from 20% to 64%, exceeding the target of 36%. However, the timeliness of payments has decreased significantly in FY25, falling short of the target and largely reflecting issues in fund mobilization rather than the payment system itself in Mauritania and Senegal. The share of grievance redress mechanisms (GRM) complaints resolved timely has improved to 92%, surpassing the target of 79%.

**Progress under the building block of “Institutional Arrangements and Partnerships” has been more mixed.**

The degree of recognition of ASP’s role in disaster risk management within national policy or strategy documents has improved with the target being achieved in all countries but one. But progress on the use of national resources to finance shock response is mixed: the number of governments committing their own financing to shock response through ASP mechanisms has increased from 0 to 2 (Burkina Faso and Mauritania) against an initial target of 3 (relatedly, Senegal’s government is financing all the transfers under the national safety net program). The associated indicator measuring the number of governments sustaining this financing over multiple years has only been met in Mauritania against an initial target of 2. As discussed in Section 5 below, many countries have made significant progress in anchoring their programs and systems in national legal framework and in institutionalizing coordination mechanisms for shock-response (dimensions not captured in the results framework). As discussed above, the number of countries where SASPP has a strong with ongoing collaboration with WFP and/or UNICEF increased from 3 to 5 (though this is formalized in a memorandum of understanding only in Mauritania).

**In terms of the “Finance” building block, the results framework reflects some advancements related to shock-response financing capacities, though a key target is not met.**

Indeed, only Mauritania has adopted a disaster risk financing strategy for ASP, while SASPP had initially envisaged to have supported four countries in reaching this milestone. While this particular objective was not met, the degree of readiness of financing to ensure timely disaster response measured in the stress test has improved slowly between 2021 and 2025, with an average score in line with the program’s initial target.

**Finally, in the “Data and Information Systems” building block, significant progress has been made. In this building block, all targets set out under SASPP’s initial results framework have been met or surpassed.**

Notable among these results is the number of households in social registries, which increased from 1,665,000 to 4,224,739 (with an additional 55,000-60,000 households expected to be included in Senegal early FY26). This growth is mirrored in social registries’ coverage relative to the number of poor households, which has increased from a baseline of 39% to

79% and exceeded the target of 76%. Advances include both broader coverage and improved quality, with innovations being piloted and scaled up—such as continuous updates in Mauritania and the SWIFT methodology in Niger. An important quality indicator, the share of households with up-to-date information in the registry has improved to 99%, far above the target of 65%. Finally, the ability of national early warning systems to monitor and alert shocks has improved throughout the region, to reach the initial target.

### **3.2 DEEPENING SASPP’S KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS AND FOCUS ON GENDER**

In addition to the activities summarized above and presented in more details in Sections 4 and 5, the SASPP deepened its engagement in two critical areas. Building on foundations established in FY24, SASPP expanded its knowledge management and communications functions to serve its core objectives. The team also dedicated its attention to identifying the impacts of ASP on women’s empowerment, the channels for their manifestation, and options to further augment results through SASPP support.

#### ***SASPP Knowledge Management and Communications Functions***

**In FY25, building on strong foundations established in FY24, SASPP expanded the ambition of its knowledge management and communications to support SASPP’s mandate and stakeholders.** Platforms and processes have been transformed into an engine for demand-led knowledge management and communication activities as well as targeted dissemination. With clearly defined objectives and expanded capacity, the team sharpened its focus on delivering timely, relevant insights to World Bank country teams, government counterparts, and partners. The function is embedded more deeply in operational workstreams, and the specialized team has prioritized activities that directly address in-country needs, in addition to ongoing publication and dissemination functions.

The enhanced knowledge management and communications strategy is guided by three interconnected objectives, mirroring SASPP's overall objectives for its third phase, described in Section 3.3. The first objective is to support the strengthening of governments' buy-in for ASP, by providing SASPP teams with the knowledge and instruments they need to engage in an informed policy dialogue (see Box 2 for more details). The second objective is to position SASPP as a trusted regional forum on ASP in the Sahel, by ensuring the quality of publications and the systematic engagement of key stakeholders and audiences. Finally, the third objective of the knowledge management and communications activities

is to make knowledge on ASP in the Sahel more accessible and applied, through systematic production and broad dissemination of SASPP knowledge products. This deliberate architecture enabled SASPP to shift from ad hoc production of knowledge products to a balanced and responsive pipeline of activities, aligned with operational priorities and informed by regular knowledge gap analysis. Overall, while it is not possible to directly attribute increased knowledge or changes in attitudes towards ASP to knowledge management activities, the greater circulation of evidence and knowledge distilled from SASPP knowledge products suggests its role in policy, technical, and operational dialogues.

## BOX 2 PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS ACROSS THE THREE-KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS OBJECTIVES

### OBJECTIVE 1: BOOSTING ASP BUY-IN FROM GOVERNMENTS

Efforts to advance national buy-in for ASP have centered on supporting teams in their policy dialogue through strategic sharing of knowledge and support for communication. Together, these initiatives reinforce the role of knowledge and communications as strategic tools to deepen buy-in at the country level. In FY25, this included contributing to a culture of learning across the SASPP teams, through an internal newsletter “SASPP What’s Happening” and monthly SASPP team meetings centered around needs emerging from teams and their stakeholders. Knowledge management and communications efforts have also focused on preparing focused communications material that are tailored to high-level policy dialogue in SASPP countries, for instance through the [Mapping Impact Series](#) – a series of country-focused print-ready summaries of ASP impacts—which has been disseminated at national events in all countries (see section 4.1, component 4 below). Similarly, based on sustained technical engagements, other in-person activities stimulated the understanding and buy-in of ASP. For example, in Mali, SASPP supported a leadership peer-to-peer knowledge exchange forum for Ministers in Pakistan, leading to tangible momentum in advancing plans for a comprehensive national ASP program (with WFP). This year, SASPP teams also piloted direct support to government communications efforts—contributing to Chad’s Refugees and Host Communities Support Project (PARCA) communication strategy and supporting Mauritania’s Taazour team on operational messaging. Finally, communications platforms, including the SASPP website and the systematic effort to provide material in French, have served as accessible entry points for dialogue, with our six partner countries ranking among the top 10 visitor locations. Besides the website, the Quarterly Digest is also provided in French, with a view to inform decision makers in the Sahel. Other language adaptations have been made accessible online, for instance, by facilitating access to the Self-Help pilot training toolkit in Wolof. Looking ahead, the team plans on increasing localized support to ASP government institutions’ efforts to communicate and advocate for their ASP programs and systems.

## BOX 2 CONTINUED

### **OBJECTIVE 2: POSITION SASPP AS A TRUSTED REGIONAL FORUM ON ASP**

For this second objective, knowledge management and communications efforts in FY25 focused on strengthening SASPP's trusted identity through thoughtful growth, quality assurance, brand consistency, and audience engagement. A new dedicated page on socialprotection.org, co-branding and cross-promoting products with key partners, and other deliberate search engine optimization efforts have enhanced SASPP's online visibility and credibility. As a result, in FY25, the SASPP website experienced a 57.2% increase from FY24, reflecting a rising demand for reliable ASP content in a highly specialized space. To strengthen recognition and alignment, redesigned web pages, clear communication guidelines, and strong quality assurance and clearance processes have ensured relevant messaging, contributing to over 68,000 LinkedIn impressions in FY25 and favorable interactions from followers. SASPP's growing credibility also translated into expanded community engagement during FY25, with the Quarterly Digest subscriber base increasing by 225.2%, and a 117.9% rise in social media followers. Performance consistently exceeded industry benchmarks, with a 10.22% average engagement rate on LinkedIn in FY25, and an average 32.5% open rate and 4.2% click-through rate for the Quarterly Digest. In the coming year, the team plans on sustained quality assurance, as well as an increased leveraging of existing partnerships to co-create and amplify content jointly.

### **OBJECTIVE 3: MAKING KNOWLEDGE AND LEARNING ON ASP IN THE SAHEL MORE ACCESSIBLE AND APPLIED**

To support this objective, the team has established a systematized production and dissemination workflow tailored to diverse audiences. Since FY23, over a hundred knowledge products have been published and shared— more than 50 of them in FY25 alone. Dissemination strategies have been strengthened through targeted audience segmentation, the curation of audience-specific content, and channel optimization. Regular platforms, including quarterly newsletters, LinkedIn, and the SASPP website, have anchored cross-learning efforts. Over 180 long-form LinkedIn posts have been generated to date (bi-weekly posts). Informed by visitor analytics, key website pages were redesigned, contributing to a 55.9% increase in downloads in FY25 and signaling meaningful engagement with SASPP knowledge outputs and use of platforms. Importantly, SASPP teams have also contributed to dynamic learning experiences with counterparts, through technical and operational workshops in countries such as Niger and Mauritania, where knowledge generated was not simply shared but jointly examined and contextualized to local priorities.

### ***SASPP Impacts on Gender Outcomes and Opportunities***

#### **Empowering women and girls is central to confronting the interconnected challenges faced by countries in the Sahel.**

The Sahel has high rates of poverty and gender inequality which are exacerbated by climate change, insecurity and conflict. Experiences of these crises including loss of income, food insecurity, erosion of human capital and displacement

are not gender neutral: women and girls are more adversely affected due to gender inequality, and more so if they experience other characteristics that marginalize and exclude. Women also face greater constraints to accessing economic opportunities, including business opportunities or self-employment. The impacts of gender inequality and exclusion extend to households, entire communities, and wider society, constraining the potential of half the population and hindering countries' socioeconomic development.

During FY25, SASPP examined how gender-responsive ASP matters for the Sahel and how SASPP contributes to significant impacts in the region. The team prepared a policy note presenting priority recommendations, as well as a technical paper with guidance on how to apply a gender lens on ASP. Drawing on a comprehensive literature review and inputs from key informants, including team members, the technical paper covers the gendered context, the barriers

women and girls face in accessing assets and resources, as well as key aspects of ASP policy, design, and delivery that require a lens on gender. It also covers efforts to protect women and girls from sexual exploitation, abuse and sexual harassment, the role of GRMs, staff codes of conduct and routine monitoring and learning. The analysis has identified existing good practices that support gender-responsive programming, presented in Box 3.

### BOX 3 EMERGING GOOD PRACTICES ON GENDER FROM SASPP

Good practices that support gender-responsive programming have been identified at all phases of delivery – during the phases of policy definition, outreach, eligibility decision, provision of transfers and accompanying measures, program management, as well as grievance management and mechanisms to prevent and mitigate gender-based violence. A comprehensive list is provided in the SASPP Technical Paper, which includes, among others:

- 1 Differentiated and inclusive approaches used to reach men and women with information on ASP, using mixed communication channels during the outreach phase,
- 2 Efforts to ensure women are included in social registries by addressing gendered barriers to inclusion during the intake and registration phase,
- 3 Gender-responsive community validation processes that involve men and women during the eligibility phase,
- 4 Promoting transfers to women as a priority, gathering on evidence that supports the rationale behind this decision,
- 5 Developing economic inclusion interventions anchored in the analysis of gendered constraints to ensure key barriers faced by women are addressed in the program,
- 6 Addressing issues related to gendered vulnerabilities to build knowledge, skills, and capabilities in the context of programs' human capital accompanying measures,
- 7 Use of behavior change approaches including edutainment to change gender norms in culturally sensitive ways,
- 8 Rigorous evaluation of gendered impacts of key interventions, to demonstrate tangible results for key gender outcomes,
- 9 Codes of conduct and behavior standards for those engaged in delivery and survivor-focused GRMs.

In the coming year, SASPP has identified five pathways to enhance the gender-responsiveness of ASP and maximize its impact on gender outcomes. The pathways, detailed in the SASPP Policy Note, will be incorporated within SASPP's regional country-level engagements. The first pathway is to increase strengthening capacity support for implementing partners in the delivery of ASP that is gender-responsive in the Sahel, including by supporting gender-responsive institutions through increased knowledge, attitudes, and

capabilities of frontline workers on gender through training, operational manuals, and tools for strategic engagement with communities and households for all phases of delivery. A second pathway is to improve the gender-focus of monitoring and evaluation systems to ensure a lens on gender during iterative learning processes. Third, SASPP will continue to provide guidance on gender-responsive payment systems—both cash-based and digital. A fourth pathway is the expansion of evidence-based advocacy on ASPs contribution

to women’s empowerment to secure political commitment for scaling up ASP that is gender-responsive in the Sahel. Finally, SASPP will continue to improve ASP’s ability to respond to gender in design and delivery, including ensuring intake, registration, assessment of needs and conditions, eligibility, and enrolment are accessible to women and bias free.

### 3.3 THE ROAD AHEAD – LAUNCHING SASPP’S THIRD PHASE (2025-2030)

**Building on a decade of engagement and impact in the Sahel**, SASPP is launching its third phase to support Sahelian countries in operationalizing and scaling up sustainable ASP systems. Phase 3 of the SASPP will be structured around three strategic axes during 2025-2030:

- **AXIS 1** – Strengthen Core National ASP Systems. Support Sahelian countries in building and enhancing ASP systems that can efficiently and sustainably promote climate resilience among the poor and vulnerable at scale.
- **AXIS 2** – Promote the Expansion of Efficient ASP Programs. Facilitate the sustained expansion of ASP coverage by supporting innovative approaches, scaling up impactful interventions, and strengthening government implementation capacity.
- **AXIS 3** – Mobilize Financial Support to Achieve Full ASP Coverage. Foster strategic partnerships to mobilize the financing required to scale national ASP systems and achieve broad-based coverage.

**Building on the first two phases, SASPP’s third phase (2025-2030) will continue strengthening ASP systems and expanding ASP programs.** In addition, based on an in-depth diagnostic of progress in the region and key constraints to the development of national ASP systems, SASPP’s third phase will also place additional emphasis on ASP systems’ sustainability, their flexibility in fragile contexts, and their contribution to climate change adaptation and resilience. These aspects are critical to ensuring ASP systems can deliver on their promise of strengthening the resilience of the poorest and most vulnerable to climate change over the long term in an impactful way.

**To address uncertainty which continues to pose a significant risk to implementation and the achievement of objectives in the region, SASPP will place greater focus on adaptive programming approaches.** This includes scenario-based planning, strengthened country-level risk monitoring, and enhanced flexibility in operational design and financing mechanisms. These measures aim to minimize the impact of political disruptions and ensure that support can be redirected or adjusted, when necessary, thereby safeguarding program continuity and impact in high-risk environments. Importantly, SASPP’s regional structure—covering six countries—provides a strategic advantage in managing such risks. The program can dynamically adjust the intensity of its engagement across countries based on evolving political economy conditions and varying levels of government commitment and capacity. Where the political context is more conducive and appetite for ASP reform is strong, SASPP can scale up technical and financial support to accelerate progress. Conversely, in more challenging environments, the program can maintain a lighter or more strategic presence, preserving technical engagement while minimizing operational risks. This flexibility helps ensure that SASPP remains responsive, relevant, and resilient in the face of an increasingly complex and volatile regional context.

**Looking ahead, the SASPP will be anchored within the Sahel and West Africa Coastal Countries (SAWAC) Umbrella Program.** The SAWAC umbrella program aims to address key drivers of fragility, conflict, and violence and strengthen sources of resilience in the Sahel and West African coastal countries. Its development objective is to support: (i) territorial development and local service delivery; (ii) education and skills development for jobs, notably for women and youth; (iii) resilience to shocks through better management of natural resources, improved food system resilience, and adaptive social protection; and (iv) a cross-cutting area to increase the effectiveness and impact of the World Bank, governments, and development partners. The geographic focus of SAWAC includes the six countries supported by SASPP in addition to Benin, Cote d’Ivoire, Guinea, Ghana, and Togo. While SASPP contributes to SAWAC’s objective of supporting resilience to shocks, the SAWAC umbrella program provides SASPP with a mechanism to enhance its visibility beyond the Sahel, leverage a wider Bank lending and analytical program, and increase coordination with sectors engaged in the other dimensions of SAWAC.



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## 4 SASPP REGIONAL PROGRAM: FY25 ACHIEVEMENTS

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 SASPP team, in consultation with government counterparts and partners, has been focusing 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.

Starting in FY26, SASPP will define new areas of focus for its regional program. The selection of topics for the regional analytical and knowledge program will continue to be driven by demand from our country engagement. The criteria for defining activities include their regional relevance, focus on actionable issues, and strong link with operations. The emphasis will be on specific questions (breaking broader topics into smaller tasks if needed) that will be renewed periodically

### BOX 4 SASPP REGIONAL KNOWLEDGE PROGRAM THEMATIC PILLARS

<b>A</b>	<b>Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience</b> <i>Enhancing the understanding of the impacts of climate-related shocks on poverty</i>
<b>B</b>	<b>Climate-Shock Responsive Delivery Systems</b> <i>Informing the design and supporting the implementation of shock-responsive programs and delivery systems</i>
<b>C</b>	<b>Productive Inclusion and Women's Empowerment</b> <i>Enhancing 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</i>
<b>D</b>	<b>Fragility and Forced Displacement</b> <i>Supporting governments' social protection programs and systems in navigating fragility and forced displacement</i>
<b>E</b>	<b>Adaptive Social Protection and Human Capital</b> <i>Enhancing and tailoring programs to strengthen and protect their contribution to human capital development in the face of an increased frequency and severity of shocks due to climate change</i>

to ensure continued direct relevance to ongoing engagement. The program is likely to focus on 8-10 questions over 6-18 months at a time. Table 1 presents the first 10 activities that will be initiated in FY26. New activities will be launched once these are completed, reflecting emerging needs as they arise. Core outputs will vary in nature, ranging from regional reports to presentations, events, policy notes, good practice guidance, and repositories of relevant material. Some of these will be implemented in collaboration with key partners, as relevant (for instance, activities 1 and 5 below will be implemented in partnership with UNICEF and WFP).

**TABLE 1 Proposed regional program activities for FY26: questions to be addressed**

<b>Activity 1:</b>	What progress has been made in establishing ASP in the Sahel and what areas deserve more attention?
<b>Activity 2:</b>	How can we engage and convince finance ministers and high-level decision makers to invest in ASP?
<b>Activity 3:</b>	How can we help countries harness climate finance for ASP?
<b>Activity 4:</b>	What are the impacts of ASP programs on the local economy?
<b>Activity 5:</b>	How can we improve ASP programs' impacts on social cohesion?
<b>Activity 6:</b>	Are poor and vulnerable households/ individuals the same, what implications for ASP?
<b>Activity 7:</b>	How can we strengthen the individual resilience of safety net beneficiaries?
<b>Activity 8:</b>	How to make climate adaptation a key objective of our economic inclusion/jobs for the poor programs?
<b>Activity 9:</b>	What options can we envisage for program entry/exit mechanisms for ASP programs?
<b>Activity 10:</b>	What options to establish payment systems for ASP in the Sahel?

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

The objective of this thematic area 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 nets programs have on beneficiaries, social cohesion, and the local economy. The evidence generated in this thematic area is intended to inform policymakers about the role and impacts of safety nets 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 and quantify the number 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 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 design 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 their partners.

### **Pillar A – Component 1: Types of shocks and their impact on poverty**

In FY25, the team expanded and updated a previous SASPP Policy Note on the prevalence and impact of shocks in the Sahel, using data from the Harmonized Household Living Conditions Surveys (Enquête Harmonisée sur les Conditions de Vie des Ménages, EHCVM) conducted in 2021/22. These surveys now cover all Sahelian countries supported by SASPP, with the exception of Mauritania. The new [updated policy note](#) enables a comprehensive review based on comparable data from five countries and provides insights into the evolving impact of shocks since 2019—a period marked by the COVID-19 pandemic, heightened security risks, and increased reliance on negative coping mechanisms.

**The findings reveal that a significant portion of the population continues to face repeated idiosyncratic and covariate shocks, particularly those related to climate and conflict.** The incidence of these shocks, however, varies across the region. Between 2019 and 2021, the proportion of households affected by climate shocks ranged from 21 percent in Senegal to 61 percent in Burkina Faso. Flooding in particular has become a growing concern: the share of households impacted by floods increased by nearly five percentage points over this period, reflecting a rising need for—and emergence of—flood response programs in countries such as Senegal. In 2024, the Global Terrorism Index reported that the Sahel region accounted for over half of the world’s terrorism-related deaths, with Burkina Faso experiencing the highest impact, followed by Mali and Niger among the most affected countries. In contrast, within most regions of Mali, the proportion of the population affected by conflict has declined. Notably, climate-related shocks continue to disproportionately affect the poorest households, more so than other types of shocks—a trend consistent with earlier survey findings.

### **Pillar A – Component 2: Timing of household and community responses to shocks**

Building on the analysis undertaken in earlier years under this component, activities have been designed under Component 4 of Pillar B to pilot and test operational approaches with different timing for shock response (see Section 4.2, component 2 on “Operational nuts and bolts of shock-responsive social protection”).

### **Pillar A – Component 3: Mechanisms by which shocks affect households**

In FY25, the team prepared a [SASPP Technical Paper](#) aimed at enhancing our understanding of the income sources available to Sahelian households, as well as their relative importance. This work was grounded in the analysis of EHCVM data from Niger, Mali, Burkina Faso, and Chad. Income diversification beyond agriculture plays a key role in building household resilience, yet knowledge of non-agricultural income sources among poor households in the Sahel has historically been limited by data gaps. The analysis categorizes non-agricultural income into three main sources: (1) income from non-agricultural household enterprises, such as trade and services; (2) wage employment; and (3) transfers. While a significant share of households engages in non-agricultural activities, the income generated from these sources remains limited. In particular, profits from non-agricultural businesses are often modest—even when gross revenues appear substantial—especially in urban areas, due to high operating costs.

**The team also analyzed how weather changes affect vulnerability, to improve targeting methodologies and the design of shock-responsive programs.** This evaluates the relationship between weather conditions and household consumption, as well as the impact on the likelihood of households slipping into poverty, using data from rural areas of Niger. The findings show a positive and statistically significant effect of weather conditions on household consumption. This effect is more pronounced when using finer spatial resolutions for weather measures – such as a 20 km buffer – compared to coarser, departmental-level analyses. Vulnerability estimates range from 31 percent to 41 percent, implying that approximately 6.5 to 8.3 million households face an increased risk of slipping into poverty due to unfavorable weather events. The paper investigates the distribution of poverty and vulnerability by analyzing the proportion of poor, non-poor, and vulnerable populations across departments and years. The findings show the departments with the highest concentrations of vulnerable populations are predominantly engaged in rainfed agricultural activities. The paper also revealed that the highest concentration of vulnerable households is in Niger’s southern and southwestern regions. Specifically, the most vulnerable departments include Tillaberi, Dosso, Maradi, Diffa, and Tahoua, which collectively account for 90 percent

of the country's millet production. This pattern highlights the necessity for targeted interventions and policies aimed at enhancing the resilience of these communities, which are disproportionately affected by environmental factors and potential shocks.

### **Pillar A – Component 4: Impacts of safety nets on poverty, vulnerability, and the economy**

To address the limited evidence available on broader economic impacts of safety net programs, the team implemented two studies that underscore the value of safety net programs not only in meeting the welfare needs of vulnerable households, but also in stimulating local economic activity. Based on the FY24 global literature review assessing existing methodologies for measuring such impacts, with a focus on local economies, the team adopted

simulation-based approaches, notably Local Economy-Wide Impact Evaluation (LEWIE) simulations, to capture both direct and indirect effects—including spillovers on non-beneficiaries. Researchers from the University of California, Davis, carried out LEWIE analyses in Senegal and Burkina Faso. These case studies explored how safety net transfers influence local economic structures and generate spillovers that benefit entire communities. The findings are compelling: in Senegal, every 100 FCFA transferred to a beneficiary household generated a total nominal income gain of 200 FCFA, reflecting a multiplier of 2 (or 200 percent). Similarly, in Burkina Faso, the analysis found a multiplier of 2.03, comprising the initial transfer and an additional 103 FCFA generated through local economic stimulus. Beneficiaries experienced the largest income gains, receiving the original transfer plus an estimated 39 FCFA in indirect benefits. By demonstrating strong income multipliers, the LEWIE analysis reinforces the role of ASP programs as powerful tools for both social protection and inclusive economic development.

## **BOX 5 EVALUATING THE ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF SENEGAL'S PNBSF PROGRAM — A LEWIE APPROACH**

Social cash transfer programs are critical tools for addressing poverty and social exclusion in developing economies. Their appeal lies not only in their direct support to vulnerable households but also in their potential to stimulate broader economic impacts through local markets. Despite their growing adoption, questions remain about the full extent of their influence on local economies.

The National Safety Net Program (Programme National de Bourses de Sécurité Familiale – PNBSF) in Senegal, initiated in 2013, provides a unique opportunity to explore these dynamics. Targeting the poorest households, the program aims to reduce poverty and social exclusion through quarterly cash transfers. It currently covers approximately 350,000 households—representing about 19 percent of the national population and half of the poor. This study evaluates the direct and indirect impacts of these transfers using a LEWIE model. By examining how cash transfers generate spillovers and shape local economic structures, the report contributes to broader discussions on social cash transfer effectiveness, equity, and efficiency in development policy. Drawing on detailed survey data and robust econometric and programming methods, it seeks to provide actionable insights for policymakers. The LEWIE analysis reveals that PNBSF cash transfers are likely to generate significant income multipliers. Every 100 FCFA transferred to beneficiary households results in a nominal (cash) income gain of 200 FCFA, or a cash income multiplier of 2. This includes the initial 100 FCFA received by beneficiaries, plus an additional 100 FCFA in income spillovers generated by increased demand for locally produced goods and services. Significantly, a large share of these spillovers accrues to households not eligible for the transfers. Ineligible households—particularly those engaged in wage labor or local enterprise—benefit from increased earnings due to heightened economic activity. High-income ineligible households receive the largest share, with their income rising by 53 FCFA for every 100 FCFA transferred to beneficiary households. In contrast, ineligible low-income households gain 37 FCFA.

## BOX 5 CONTINUED

These findings reflect a broader trend observed across LEWIE applications: spillovers tend to favor households with greater capacity to respond to increased demand. In the PNBSF context, high-income ineligible households often operate the retail shops, transport services, and livestock enterprises that supply goods and services consumed by transfer recipients. As beneficiary households increase consumption—especially of locally available goods—better-off producers capture a disproportionate share of the resulting income gains. While the poorest areas may receive more transfers per capita, they often lack the productive assets needed to fully absorb new demand, causing some of the economic benefits to “leak” outward to households with greater supply-side capacity.

### **In FY25, the team also produced communication material to highlight the impacts of ASP programs across the Sahel.**

Bilingual infographics—in both English and French—were developed to present findings on country-specific impacts visually, detailing observed benefits across multiple domains. These include immediate effects on poverty and food security, as well as longer-term improvements in household assets, savings, productivity, and resilience. The analysis also underscores the intergenerational benefits through investments in children’s human capital and the broader societal gains through enhanced social cohesion and local economic growth. Publications were finalized for Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Niger, and Senegal. These materials have been disseminated at multiple high-level events and used to provide a strong evidence base for high-level policy dialogue. Notably, they were presented at the regional workshop on national safety net programs held in Nouakchott in November 2024, which gathered 35 government officials from 11 countries. Further presentations took place during the national social protection conference in Bamako in February 2025, during the annual session of the Council for Emergency Relief and Rehabilitation (Conseil National de Secours d’Urgence et de Réhabilitation) in Ouagadougou in March 2025, and during the Capacity Building Technical Workshop for Social Protection Stakeholders held in Chad in April 2025. The infographics were also used in the policy dialogue in Senegal and shared with the Ministry of Family and Solidarity, the Ministry of Economy and the Prime Minister’s office; they helped convey key messages around the impact of the main safety net programs.

### **Finally, the team finalized the review of conceptual and empirical literature on the impact of social protection on social cohesion initiated in FY24.**

The review 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. 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. This analysis, developed in collaboration with UNICEF and WFP, 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, published as a [SASPP Technical Paper](#). As part of the broader collaboration between UNICEF, WFP and SASPP, the team has planned additional qualitative and quantitative analysis in FY26.

**TABLE 2** Summary Activities and Outputs for Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience Pillar

Component	FY25 Activities and Outputs
<b>Component 1: Types of shocks and their impact on poverty</b>	Updated Policy Note 2 on the impact of shocks and prevalence of negative copying mechanisms in the region based on EHCVM 2021 data.
<b>Component 2: Timing of household and community responses to shocks</b>	See Pillar B, Component 2.
<b>Component 3: Mechanisms by which shocks affect households</b>	Prepared SASPP Technical paper on diversifying livelihoods and building resilience (role of non-agricultural income sources) in Sahel countries.  Prepared analysis of impact of weather vulnerability on vulnerability in Niger, to enhance targeting and intervention strategies for post-shock support.
<b>Component 4: Economic impact of safety nets on poverty, vulnerability, and the economy</b>	Prepared notes for Chad, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, and Senegal that summarize the evidence on the impacts of ASP programs.  Estimated the impact of safety nets on local economy in Burkina Faso and Senegal. Prepared SASPP Technical Paper summarizing evidence on the impact of social protection on social cohesion (with WFP and UNICEF).

## 4.2 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 the development and implementation of 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 aiming 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 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 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.

### *Pillar B – Component 1: Designing shock-responsive social protection interventions*

In FY25, the team continued to provide support for the **development and enhancement of climate shock response mechanisms in the Sahel**. Activities focused on refining drought response triggers and on flood response systems. In Niger, the team provided technical assistance to strengthen the country’s drought response program, by calculating satellite-based drought triggers. Despite generally favorable rainfall conditions during the 2024 season, severe drought thresholds were exceeded in three communes, and moderate thresholds in 23 communes, indicating localized risks of poor millet harvests due to insufficient rainfall. While the World Bank did not finance emergency drought-related transfers, the analytical work directly informed the planning of the 2024 response and coordination with partners, including WFP and UNICEF.

**In parallel, the team supported flood preparedness efforts by preparing a flood risk profile for Chad.** The analysis was done in collaboration with the CDP and the French research institute Centre d’Etudes et de Recherches sur le Développement International (CERDI). This profile—Chad’s first of its kind—analyzes the historical frequency and severity of flooding across different regions. The analysis will guide the identification of priority areas for flood response and support the design of a trigger mechanism for a future rapid flood response pilot under the SASPP-supported investment operation.

**The team developed an innovative methodology for shock-responsive targeting.** In January 2025, an event was organized with the World Bank’s Poverty Global Practice to present the SWIFT-Proxy means test approach, building on the SWIFT data collection method used in Niger and other countries. Compared to traditional proxy means test models, this approach significantly reduces the number of variables required to estimate consumption, narrowing it down to between 8 and 15. This simplification results in shorter questionnaires, lowers data collection costs—both financially and in terms of time—and consequently facilitates a quicker expansion and more frequent updates of social registries. Additionally, the method also includes fast-changing poverty correlations that can capture rapid changes in household well-being and be used for shock response. A detailed presentation has been published on the SASPP website.

### ***Pillar B – Component 2: Operational nuts and bolts of shock-responsive social protection***

**In FY25, the team published a [SASPP Technical Paper on dynamic social registries](#), accompanied by a [blog post](#), [policy note](#), and a [presentation](#) to share key findings with a broader audience.** The paper outlines recommendations for building more adaptive and effective social registries, including: (1) establishing a permanent client interface for on-demand data collection from households; (2) adopting a modular questionnaire design to allow flexible data updates; (3) ensuring interoperability with other data systems and delivery mechanisms; and (4) promoting systematic peer-to-peer learning between countries and institutions.

**Additional work on social registries provided ground for continuous knowledge exchanges and learning.** This included the preparation of a note documenting the innovations which were implemented in Mauritania’s data intake and registration mechanisms. The paper provides operational insights on how to make social registries more inclusive and cost-efficient. Mauritania’s social registry effectively modularized and re-sequenced its intake and registration process by first administering a concise 25-question questionnaire to all households for scoring and ranking. This was followed by community validation and comprehensive data collection through complementary modules for the poorest and most vulnerable households. These innovations reduced unit costs per household while ensuring basic data collection for all,

thereby achieving de facto universal coverage. The shift from community preselection to validation minimized elite capture while maintaining legitimacy, and the inclusion of vulnerability buffers expanded coverage beyond strict poverty thresholds. A virtual exchange was also held in November 2024, connecting Mauritania, Burkina Faso, Benin, and Côte d’Ivoire with the SIUBEN social registry of the Dominican Republic to share best practices on incorporating climate resilience. Building on country-focused technical support, the internal repository of social registry tools and documentation was expanded to include updated manuals, legal decrees, data collection instruments, terms of reference, and needs assessment methodologies from across the region and beyond.

**Progress was also made in improving payment systems through SASPP’s ongoing collaboration with the CGAP.** Technical assistance supported pilot initiatives such as account-based payments in Senegal and digital payments in urban areas of Mauritania, aimed at increasing efficiency and financial inclusion.

### ***Pillar B – Component 3: Disaster risk financing for shock-responsive social protection***

**In FY25, a disaster risk finance diagnostic was completed in both Chad and Mali, in partnership with the CDP.** In Chad, the study emphasizes the compounding effects of multiple hazards—including droughts, floods, and refugee influxes—on vulnerable populations. It recommends expanding safety net coverage in central regions most exposed to natural hazards; introducing predefined response triggers to enable timely ASP activation; and enhancing coordination with humanitarian partners to improve shock response effectiveness. The study in Mali recommends expanding safety nets in high-vulnerability regions; strengthening the ASP system, particularly the social registry; integrating shock-responsive triggers; and promoting greater use of prearranged financing instruments such as contingency funds and sovereign insurance mechanisms.

**To deepen understanding of disaster risk finance operational tools, case studies of disaster contingency funds were completed for Chad and Mali.** These complement earlier case studies in Burkina Faso (FY23–FY24) and recent in-country assessments in Senegal and Mauritania (FY25). A regional report synthesizing best practices for ASP-related contingency funds was prepared in collaboration with the CDP.

Finally, a [technical note](#) was prepared in partnership with CGAP on leveraging climate finance for social protection, using the Sahel as a case study. The note demonstrates how social protection systems—with their extensive reach, operational capacity, and track record—can serve as effective delivery channels for climate funds, enabling rapid, accountable, and targeted support to populations most vulnerable to climate change. Social protection systems can offer a promising solution to climate funds by channeling

direct climate funds efficiently to enhance climate resilience and adaptation among vulnerable populations. Social protection systems can engage large vulnerable populations due to their scale, flexibility, targeting and organizational capabilities, rapidly responding to climate shocks, and ensuring the efficient, transparent use of funds. By integrating climate funds with social protection systems, the funds can leverage these systems to deliver support directly to the most climate-affected individuals and households quickly.

## BOX 6 HARNESING CLIMATE FUNDS FOR ASP IN THE SAHEL

One of the poorest regions of the world, the Sahel is also one of the regions most exposed and vulnerable to climate change. The frequency of droughts, heatwaves, and floods is growing, rainfall becoming more erratic.<sup>2</sup> Meanwhile, as most of the population depends on rain-fed agriculture, impacts of such climate shocks on the population can often be catastrophic. On the global ND-GAIN index, the central Sahelian countries rank among the most vulnerable countries to climate shocks, with Chad scoring the worst worldwide.

“Adaptive social protection” (ASP) is an approach to build the resilience of poor and vulnerable households by investing in their capacity to prepare for, cope with, and adapt to covariate shocks, in particular climate shocks.<sup>3</sup> Meanwhile, “climate adaptation” means taking action to prepare for and adjust to the current and projected impacts of climate change.<sup>4</sup> Thus, at its core, ASP is a climate adaptation approach.

The international climate finance architecture provides funding for climate adaptation and mitigation measures via multiple vehicles, including the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Trust Fund, the Adaptation Fund (AF), the Least Developed Countries (LDC) Fund, the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF), and the upcoming Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD). So far, these funds are mostly focused on mitigation and infrastructure, with only a relatively small share of social protection-related projects receiving funding each year. For example, the GCF, GEF, AF, LDC Fund, and the SCCF together financed 119 projects in 2022 worth a total of \$1.74 billion; only 13 of these worth a total of \$174 million were social protection-related.<sup>5</sup>

Increasingly, the potential of social protection for climate change adaptation and as a funding target for climate funds is being pointed out.<sup>6</sup> COP28 decision texts called for increased support for adaptive social protection by multilateral actors, including through the new loss and damage fund, the Just Transition Work Programme, and the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience. Given the direct relevance for the Sahel, the SASPP program will dedicate a workstream in FY26 to identify entry points and instruments to help Sahel countries access climate finance for the design, delivery, and scale-up of ASP systems.

2 See e.g. World Bank, “G5 Sahel Country Climate Development Report (CCDR)”, 2022

3 Bowen, T. et al, “Adaptive Social Protection: Building Resilience to Shocks”, 2020

4 <https://gca.org/what-is-climate-adaptation/>

5 Sengupta, S. and Sivanu, S., “Climate funds and social protection: What is the progress to date?”, 2024

6 See e.g. *ibid*; Aleksandrova, M. et al, “Unlocking climate finance for social protection: an analysis of the Green Climate Fund”, 2024

## Pillar B – Component 4: Creating evidence of impact of shock-responsive social protection

Building on work initiated in FY22, the component supported impact evaluations to assess the relative effectiveness of early interventions compared to traditional responses in the context of droughts in Niger and Mauritania in collaboration with the World Bank Development Impact team and Oxford University. Three different modalities were tested in Niger: (1) traditional response during the lean season, (2) earlier large transfers of equal duration, and (3) earlier short transfers of longer duration—all providing the same total amounts of benefit

to households. Results show that large early transfers yield benefits on economic welfare and psychological well-being compared to a traditional humanitarian response delivered during the lean season. In FY25, the component delivered a [presentation](#) and “ASP in brief” report in [French](#) and [English](#), presenting key results of the impact evaluation, alongside a [Working Paper](#) presenting the detailed methodology and results. A similar evaluation is underway in Mauritania: the data collection was completed in FY25, and analysis will take place during the coming months. The evaluation planned in Senegal was cancelled, as the predetermined trigger for the early transfer intervention was not activated.

**TABLE 3** Summary Activities and Outputs for Climate Shock-Responsive Delivery Systems Pillar

Component	FY25 Activities and Outputs
<b>Component 1: Designing shock-responsive social protection interventions</b>	Supported the design of 2024 drought response in Niger Prepared flood risk profile in Chad Analyzed adequacy of SWIFT methodology for beneficiary identification of shock-response interventions
<b>Component 2: Operational nuts and bolts of shock-responsive social protection</b>	Prepared a technical paper, policy note, blog and presentation on dynamic social registries Provided TA on payment systems in Mali, Chad, Senegal, and Mauritania (CGAP) Note on Mauritania’s social registry innovations
<b>Component 3: Disaster risk financing for shock-responsive social protection</b>	Prepared disaster risk finance diagnostic in Chad and Mali (CDP) Conducted case studies of contingency funds in Chad and Mali (CDP) Prepared a regional report on national disaster risk finance instruments (CDP) Prepared a note on leveraging climate funds for ASP (with CGAP)
<b>Component 4: Creating evidence of impact of shock-responsive social protection</b>	Prepared report on Niger shock-responsive intervention impact evaluation Completed data collection for the Mauritania intervention

## 4.3 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. These multifaceted packages include 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. This thematic pillar aims at enhancing knowledge in designing and implementing economic inclusion interventions tailored to the Sahel region, 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.

### ***Pillar C – Component 1: Multi-country evaluation of productive inclusion packages***

In FY25, the team completed the ongoing regional effort to deepen our understanding of the impacts of economic inclusion programs across the Sahel. The team focused on finalizing and disseminating country-level impact evaluation results, analyzing regional pooled impacts, and preparing a new impact evaluation in Chad. Evaluation reports were published and disseminated in Burkina Faso, Chad, Niger, Mauritania, and Senegal, with a consolidated regional presentation summarizing key impacts made available online. In Senegal, the analysis also assesses medium-term effects, assessing outcomes 36 months after the intervention—a valuable addition to the global evidence base.

In addition to the core impact evaluations, the team is implementing additional analyses on specific issues. In Chad, in addition to the impact on beneficiaries, the evaluation uncovered significant spillover effects on non-beneficiaries within targeted villages, helping to fill a critical global knowledge gap. In targeted villages, households that did not participate in economic inclusion activities saw 9% higher food consumption, a 10-point increase in savings group participation (from 30% to 40%), increased economic activities, and improved women’s empowerment. Meanwhile in Senegal, the team launched an innovative study assessing the wider economic effects of economic inclusion programs. In FY25, the team finalized the design

note and collected one wave of data on enterprises, markets, and prices. The second round of data collection took place in June 2025, which also includes household-level data on both beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries. Finally, the team prepared options for an impact evaluation in Chad focused on refugees and host communities.

### ***Pillar C – Component 2: Operational learning and implementation lessons***

The team prepared and published a [SASPP policy note synthesizing cross-country lessons on scaling economic inclusion and compiles lessons from the expansion in Senegal](#). The policy note aims to inform other countries exploring national-level expansion. Key recommendations include embedding economic inclusion programs within established safety nets for greater impact; balancing quality and cost, implementing adjustments for FCV contexts; making adaptation to climate change a core program objective; securing sustainability through strong anchorage in national policies, institutionalization of programs, resource mobilization, and capacity building; and addressing gender-specific constraints through tailored program design. The team also published an [operational note](#) on Senegal’s national scale. It builds on the results of a workshop, capturing insights from ongoing technical support to the program.

### ***Pillar C – Component 3: Policy dialogue, dissemination, and just-in-time technical assistance***

In FY25, the team continued to disseminate key products and provide technical assistance to countries to refine their productive inclusion packages. In collaboration with the Partnership for Economic Inclusion, the team participated in regional and global learning events – including the South-South Learning Forum in Kigali with participation from delegations from Senegal, Niger, Burkina Faso and Mauritania – leveraging operational and analytical advances to support country programs in tailoring interventions to women, urban and rural populations, refugees, and host communities. Technical assistance was provided to Chad, Senegal, and Mauritania, with a particular focus on adapting productive inclusion packages for refugees, urban households, and safety net graduates. In Mauritania, the team also supported the development of a roadmap to expand productive inclusion in the program’s next phase.

**In FY25, with support from FCDO, the team expanded work on integrating climate adaptation into economic interventions.** In Senegal, best-practice notes on climate-smart agriculture were developed for the Agricultural Resilience Project, in partnership with the Agriculture and Food Global Practice. In Mauritania, a study on climate adaptation opportunities for safety net beneficiaries was completed to inform the revision of productive inclusion

activities. As part of this effort, a qualitative study was also launched in collaboration with the Development Impact Evaluation Department, the Gender Innovation Lab, and local universities, to explore gender-specific and structural constraints to adopting climate adaptation practices, with the goal of informing program design to enhance women's climate resilience through economic inclusion (initiated in Chad, Mauritania, and Senegal).

## **BOX 7 REGIONAL STUDY ON THE CONSTRAINTS TO EXPANDING ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES AND ADOPTION OF CLIMATE ADAPTATION STRATEGIES IN CHAD, MAURITANIA AND SENEGAL**

The Sahel region faces an unprecedented convergence of climate vulnerability, economic fragility, and social instability. Despite contributing less than 0.7 percent of global emissions, the region experiences some of the world's most severe climate impacts, including rising temperatures, extreme weather events, and progressive land degradation. With over 70% of the population dependent on agriculture and livestock, these environmental pressures translate directly into food insecurity, forced displacement, and deepening poverty cycles. The challenges are compounded by ongoing conflict and governance issues, particularly affecting Chad, Mauritania, and Senegal, where millions have been displaced due to violence and climate stressors. Rapid population growth, limited human capital development, and persistent gender disparities further constrain economic progress, with women and girls facing additional barriers including child marriage, restricted educational access, and gender-based violence.

In response to these multifaceted challenges, the SASPP team launched a qualitative research study that examines the intersection of economic inclusion and climate change adaptation in Chad, Mauritania, and Senegal. The study aims to inform the design of comprehensive economic inclusion packages that enhance both climate resilience and socioeconomic outcomes for poor and vulnerable populations.

The research employs a multi-method qualitative approach, combining focus group discussions, key informant interviews, and participatory exercises to understand the diverse experiences of different population groups—including men and women, rural and urban communities, refugees and host populations, and households engaged in various livelihood strategies. A particular focus is placed on identifying the most binding constraints to productive activities and climate adaptation strategies.

By examining current practices, opportunities, and barriers across these three countries, the study seeks to provide evidence-based recommendations for designing productive inclusion interventions that maximize impact on economic activities and climate resilience. The findings will directly inform policy development and program design, contributing to more effective adaptive social protection systems that can better serve the region's most vulnerable populations while building long-term resilience against climate and economic shocks.

**TABLE 4** Summary activities and outputs for Productive Inclusion and Women Empowerment Pillar

Component	FY25 Activities and Outputs
<b>Component 1: Multi-country impact evaluation on the effectiveness of productive inclusion packages</b>	<p>Published and disseminated impact evaluation reports with results from Chad, Mauritania, Burkina Faso, Niger, and Senegal.</p> <p>Designed IE for refugees and host communities in Chad.</p> <p>Launched impact evaluation of economic spillovers in Senegal (collected one wave of data).</p>
<b>Component 2: Operational learning and implementation lessons</b>	<p>Prepared and disseminated a SASPP Policy Note on pathways and opportunities for scaling.</p> <p>Prepared and disseminated a note on operational lessons from the scale-up in Senegal.</p>
<b>Component 3: Policy dialogue, dissemination, and just-in-time technical assistance</b>	<p>Best-practice notes on climate-smart agriculture (Senegal)</p> <p>Technical note on opportunities for climate adaptation in Mauritania (with FCDO support).</p> <p>Technical assistance to Senegal and Mauritania on inclusion of innovations to boost impacts of productive packages on climate resilience (with FCDO support).</p>

## 4.4 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 (Burkina Faso, Mali, Chad and Niger) are considered fragile and are included on the World Bank FCV list, while all six countries host refugees or internally displaced persons. 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.

The pillar is structured around four main components:

- 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 alignment between national social protection programs and 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.

### **Pillar D – Component 1: A theory of change from social protection to peace**

In FY25, the team published and disseminated a study on safety nets in contexts of violence, fragility, and forced displacement as part of the Social Protection and Jobs Discussion Paper series. Drawing on 400 interviews with beneficiaries, non-beneficiaries, and community leaders in Burkina Faso and Cameroon, the study underscores the crucial role of social safety nets in maintaining human capital in fragile and conflict-affected contexts. Safety nets enable households to sustain consumption and access essential

services such as education and healthcare. However, building long-term resilience remains more challenging and requires sustained investments. Importantly, the study also finds that safety nets can contribute to social cohesion and strengthen trust in the state. Key findings were summarized in a [SASPP Policy Note](#), which provides actionable recommendations for the design or adaptation of programs in FCV settings. These include: providing longer-term and higher levels of support to households in high-conflict areas; incorporating flexible objectives and anticipating the need to adjust programs to evolving security dynamics; intentionally promoting social cohesion through program design; and investing in clear and transparent communication to build trust in government and reinforce the social contract.

**The team also published a comprehensive literature review summarizing the evidence on the impacts of social safety nets in FCV contexts.** It covers the impacts of interventions—including monetary transfers, economic inclusion, public works/cash-for-work, and in-kind transfers—on economic well-being, social cohesion, and conflict dynamics. After identifying the pathways of impact for each of these dimensions, the analysis presents empirical evidence from FCV countries. It concludes with a series of recommendations, including (1) the importance of keeping security challenges in mind when designing interventions, (2) choosing modalities according to logistics and security constraints, (3) understanding community and social fault lines to anticipate the effects of programs on social cohesion, (4) leveraging community-based processes to maximize social cohesion benefits, or (5) adopting longer duration of intervention for sustained efforts on economic well-being, peace and cohesion.

### ***Pillar D – Component 2: Adapting ASP programs and systems to delivery in fragility, conflict, and violence***

**In FY25, the team published a SASPP flagship report “[A Guide to Implementing Social Safety Nets in FCV Contexts: An In-Depth Look at World Bank Social Safety Net Operations](#).”** This guidebook builds on ongoing efforts to systematize lessons learned and inform effective social protection programming in FCV settings. It provides guidance to World Bank task teams, practitioners, and client governments on how to design, deliver, and implement social safety net programs in challenging and dynamic

environments. Rather than offering a prescriptive approach, the guidebook compiles practical knowledge, best practices, and real-world examples drawn from World Bank social safety net operations across FCV-affected countries. It is intended as a flexible and user-friendly reference to support program design and adaptation in complex contexts.

**The guidebook is organized into three core sections:** (1) Programming: Covers project conception and development, including guidance on setting appropriate objectives in FCV contexts and selecting tailored interventions; (2) Delivery: Focuses on the social protection delivery chain, detailing how to adapt delivery mechanisms to the unique challenges posed by FCV environments; and (3) Implementation: Addresses key operational considerations such as establishing a Project Implementation Unit (PIU), managing Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E), and contracting with United Nations agencies or other partners.

### ***Pillar D – Component 3: Humanitarian assistance and national social protection linkages***

**This component was completed on FY24.** However, the question of the nexus between humanitarian and development actions remains highly relevant in the region and is reflected in the engagement at the country level, with critical policy, technical and operational coordination (see details in Section 5 below). In addition, to address the changing fragility patterns globally, as well as the changing environment of humanitarian and development aid, the World Bank is currently revising its FCV strategy (the previous strategy had been defined in FY20 for the period 2020-2025), which will shape SASPP approach to the nexus during the coming years.

### ***Pillar D – Component 4: Adapting design and implementation to population mobility***

In addition to the operational support to refugees in Chad and Mauritania (see Section 5), in FY25, the team prepared and disseminated a set of knowledge products aimed at improving the inclusivity of ASP systems and programs for internal migrants in the Sahel. Given the widespread and dynamic nature of internal migration across the region, this work emphasizes the importance of designing social

## BOX 8 APPLYING A MOBILITY LENS TO ASP CAN CONTRIBUTE TO REALIZING THE FULL POTENTIAL OF POPULATION MOBILITY IN THE SAHEL

In the Sahel, population mobility is central to people's livelihoods and economic security. While internal migration is commonly driven by economic motives, its manifestation and profile of migrants vary across countries. Wage differences explain a large part of the motivation to move from rural to urban areas. Non-economic motivations include marriage, family-related reasons (particularly among women), education, and cultural values. In recent years, insecurity and climate change have led to an increasing number of distressed migrants and IDPs.

Mobility can result in vulnerabilities for migrants at origin, during transit, and at destination. Many migrants experience poverty and lack access to basic services. They may not have the skills required for gainful employment at destination. Migration often entails dangerous journeys. Relocation can disrupt people's access to social networks, making them vulnerable to discrimination or exclusion. Moreover, migrants or their families may lose access to programs and services.

Given the salience of mobility dynamics in Sahelian livelihoods and some of the associated vulnerabilities, ASP programs and systems may need to be adjusted to ensure that migrants and their families are supported, not penalized.

A recent SASPP policy note and associated SASPP Technical Paper point to the need, at the policy level, to reflect mobility-related considerations in ASP policy frameworks, coordination across administrative departments and levels as well as with humanitarian agencies, the adaptation of social registries, and campaigns to improve access to basic services, national IDs, as well as information on safe migration practices.

At the operational level, meaningful modifications to ASP programs and systems can be made at each step of the delivery chain to ensure that migrants do not miss out on account of programmatic or administrative blind spots. These modifications may include measures such as allowing dynamic and on-demand program registration, allowing multiple household members to receive program benefits, directing better coordination across administrative and geographical boundaries to ensure portability of benefits, and reviewing and adjusting the content, timing, and modality of program benefits to better suit the needs of people on the move.

protection programs and systems that respond to the needs of mobile populations, rather than assuming static residency. The initiative delivered three complementary outputs, underpinned by a dedicated background paper that explored migration trends by country, gender, and rural/urban status. This workstream provides a critical foundation for adapting social protection systems in the Sahel to better serve internal migrants. It also offers a broader contribution to global efforts to make ASP more inclusive, adaptive, and responsive to population mobility.

The outputs include a [SASPP Technical Paper](#), a [diagnostic tool](#), a [SASPP Policy Note](#), a [presentation](#) and a [blog](#). The SASPP Technical Paper applied the social protection delivery chain framework from Lindert et al., 2020<sup>7</sup> to examine how internal mobility intersects with the various stages of social protection design, delivery, and financing. It drew on global evidence and case studies from three SASPP-supported projects to highlight challenges and opportunities and presented targeted recommendations to enhance the inclusion of migrants. A practical diagnostic tool was developed to

7 Lindert, Kathy; Karippacheril, Tina George; Rodriguez Caillava, Inés; Nishikawa Chavez, Kenichi. Lindert, Kathy; Karippacheril, Tina George; Rodriguez Caillava, Inés; Nishikawa Chavez, Kenichi, editors. 2020. Sourcebook on the Foundations of Social Protection Delivery Systems. © World Bank. <http://hdl.handle.net/10986/34044> License: [CC BY 3.0 IGO](#).

assess the extent to which social protection programs and systems take population mobility into account at different stages and identify opportunities for improvements (it is annexed to the technical paper). Finally, a SASPP Policy Note provided actionable recommendations for policymakers and practitioners. It outlined priority adjustments at the policy, program, and delivery levels, including: Developing institutional mechanisms to ensure portability of benefits across locations; Enhancing mobility-sensitive outreach in high-mobility areas

and among migrant communities; Avoiding restrictive eligibility criteria based on residency or fixed addresses; Designing benefits and services suited to the needs of mobile populations; Aligning delivery timelines and access modalities with seasonal and circular migration patterns; Allowing alternate or multiple household members to receive benefits; Ensuring GRMs are accessible regardless of beneficiary location; and establishing flexible financing mechanisms to accommodate fluctuations in caseloads due to migration.

**TABLE 5 Summary activities and outputs for Fragility and Forced Displacement Pillar**

Component	FY25 Activities and Outputs
<b>Component 1: A theory of change from social protection to peace</b>	Published a SASPP Technical Paper presenting a review of evidence on impacts of social safety nets on economic outcomes, social cohesion, and conflict in FCV contexts.  Disseminated a SASPP Technical Paper and associated Policy Note on the analysis of safety nets in FCV contexts in Burkina Faso and Cameroon.
<b>Component 2: Adapting ASP programs and systems to delivery in FCV contexts</b>	Published the flagship operational guidebook on ASP in FCV contexts.
<b>Component 3: Humanitarian Assistance and National Social Protection Linkages</b>	Component completed in FY24.
<b>Component 4: Adapting design and implementation to population mobility</b>	Published a SASPP Policy note Policy Note providing actionable recommendations for policymakers and practitioners to improve the inclusivity of ASP systems and programs for internal migrants in the Sahel.  Published a SASPP Technical Paper with a menu of options to make ASP responsive to population mobility in the Sahel (with its accompanying assessment tool).

## 4.5 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 a crucial element 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, with an emphasis on the first five years of life and identifies 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.

**Pillar E – Component 1: Linkages between climate shocks and human capital in the Sahel**

This workstream was completed in FY24 and laid the groundwork for current innovations at the intersection of climate resilience and human development developed under component 2.

**Pillar E – Component 2: Strengthening investments in human capital in a shock-prone environment.**

In FY25, the core of the activities in this pillar was to translate earlier research into the design and implementation of pilots aimed at enhancing human capital outcomes through social protection delivery systems.

**The team support the pilot of a Group-Based Stress Management Program in Senegal.** In Senegal, the team piloted Self-Help Plus—a five-week, group-based stress management program—in collaboration with Georgetown University, George Washington University, Cheikh Anta Diop University of Dakar, and the Senegal Safety Net project implementation unit. Designed for delivery by laypersons or community workers, Self-Help Plus has demonstrated cost-effectiveness in similar low-resource contexts. To prepare for implementation, the team translated and culturally adapted the program materials and assessment tools, recorded audio materials in Wolof using culturally relevant language and examples, created flip charts in French to support facilitators, provided a 5-day training to community workers (led by a French-speaking psychiatrist from George Washington University and supported by local research assistants); and conducted a refresher course two weeks before program delivery. In addition to the design and implementation of the pilot, the team launched a study to collect baseline, midline, and endline data (in FY25, the research protocol was developed, and baseline data were collected). The findings of the study will inform future design of human capital accompanying measures in Senegal and similar FCV contexts.



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## BOX 9 SELF-HELP PLUS PILOT IN SENEGAL

The SASPP launched a pilot initiative in Senegal to explore the integration of mental health interventions within social protection programming, with the goal of improving stress management among adults. The intervention, Self-Help Plus, is an innovative, community-based psychological program designed to reduce stress and enhance resilience among safety net beneficiaries. It is delivered by trained community workers using a structured, group-based approach.

In October 2024, 60 non-specialist facilitators were trained in Dakar and Thiès to deliver the Self-Help Plus intervention. Developed by the World Health Organization, the intervention materials were adapted to the Senegalese context, both culturally and linguistically. The training emphasized facilitation skills and familiarity with locally relevant mental health concepts and idioms. Foundational activities, including cognitive interviews and focus group discussions, were conducted between late 2024 and early 2025 to support the contextual adaptation of both intervention materials and psychological measurement tools.

In March 2025, a quantitative baseline survey was conducted across four districts—spanning urban, peri-urban, and rural areas—as part of a cluster randomized controlled trial. The study involved 750 respondents, with equal numbers assigned to treatment and control groups across 30 neighborhoods.

Following the baseline, the five-week intervention was implemented during April and May 2025. Facilitator feedback indicated strong engagement and enthusiasm for the program. Midline data, collected in June 2025, showed encouraging participation: 78 percent of individuals in the treatment group attended at least one session, and 41 percent completed all five sessions. The intervention received high satisfaction ratings, with more than 80 percent of participants reporting that they were very likely to continue attending and would recommend Self-Help Plus to friends or family members.

Endline data collection is scheduled for October 2025. Preliminary results suggest that integrating stress management interventions into social protection platforms is both feasible and acceptable. The pilot demonstrates promising potential as a scalable, cost-effective model for delivering community-based mental health support in low-resource settings across the Sahel and beyond.

**The team also focused on a cross-sectoral cleaner cooking pilot in Chad. In collaboration with the World Bank Energy and Environment Global Practices, the team designed a cleaner cooking intervention.** The objective is to enhance the impact of cleaner cooking initiatives on both human capital and environmental outcomes. Behavioral messages and activities promoting cleaner cooking were adapted for the Chadian context by the World Bank Mind, Behavior, and Development unit, based on a successful model from Rwanda. These messages were piloted at a small scale and assessed for effectiveness. Findings from this pilot will inform the integration of a cleaner cooking module into the human capital accompanying measures of Chad's social protection programming.

**Finally, the team developed nutrition-focused accompanying measures in Burkina Faso.** In collaboration with the World Bank's health team, and with support from SASPP and the Rapid Social Response—Adaptive and Dynamic Social Protection Trust Fund and the Nutrition Multi-Donor Trust Fund, the team piloted an integrated intervention overlaying the delivery of small-quantity lipid-based nutrient supplements (SQ-LNS) with nutrition-sensitive behavioral accompanying measures. Building on the study on [determinants of childhood undernutrition](#) and [recommendations for SQ-LNS](#) in the Sahel prepared in earlier years, the team launched an assessment of the capacity of community workers (working across the health, agriculture, and social protection sectors) to deliver

accompanying measures. The findings will guide future interventions in the identification and training of service providers for SQ-LNS distribution, and in the design of interventions with a food supplementation focus.

***Pillar E – Component 3: Protecting existing investments in human capital in a shock-prone environment***

**In FY25, the team finalized a guidance note under a [SASPP Technical Paper](#) to support the design of human capital accompanying measures in West African countries.**

Drawing on case studies from the six SASPP countries and beyond, the guidance note offers practical direction on the key steps and considerations for developing effective accompanying measures. It covers critical components such as identifying target populations, designing content, selecting and training service providers, developing delivery activities, and establishing robust monitoring and evaluation systems. The guidance note is intended as a resource for World Bank task teams and partner governments and will be widely disseminated across Social Protection and Health, Nutrition, and Population Global Practices and other relevant stakeholders.

**TABLE 6 Summary activities and outputs for Adaptive Social Protection and Human Capital Pillar**

Component	FY25 Activities and Outputs
<b>Component 1: Linkages between climate shocks and human capital in the Sahel</b>	Component completed in FY24.
<b>Component 2: Interventions to strengthen investments in human capital in a shock-prone environment</b>	Implemented and evaluated the Self-Help Plus pilot in an urban and a rural locality in Senegal. Piloted and evaluated the delivery of cleaner cooking messages in Chad. Launched an assessment of the capacity of community workers to deliver accompanying measures alongside the SQ-LNS in Burkina Faso.
<b>Component 3: Protecting existing investments in human capital in a shock-prone environment</b>	Published a guidance note on the design of human capital accompanying measures in West Africa.



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## 5

# SASPP COUNTRY ACTIVITIES: FY25 ACHIEVEMENTS AND FY26 PLANS

**This section provides a comprehensive overview of SASPP country-level activities deployed to support progress along the four building blocks.** In FY25, SASPP continued to provide support to countries by combining significant investments through projects (implemented by government agencies through Recipient-executed grants, see Tables 13 and 15 in Appendix 2) with tailored analytical and technical assistance (implemented through the Bank-executed grants detailed in Table 17 in Appendix 2). This section presents a detailed summary of activities undertaken in FY25, the progress achieved in each country, and the plans for FY26.

**Ongoing ASP financing in Mauritania and Chad reflect significant ambition to sustain country-wide national systems and programs.** In Mauritania, in addition to the ongoing operation, the World Bank team is collaborating closely with the government on the upcoming Program-for-Results (PforR)—the first of its kind in the region to support ASP. This marks a paradigm shift in operational approach and offers promising opportunities for institutional capacity building. In Chad, the new project approved in June 2024 became effective during FY25 and will support the foundations of Chad’s national ASP system, in close collaboration with humanitarian partners.

**During FY25, a new phase of ASP financing in Mali was approved in April 2025, to be delivered through the Sub-Saharan Africa Women’s Empowerment and Demographic Dividend Plus (SWEDD+) Project.** This new operation will support productive inclusion activities for poor and vulnerable girls and women. In Niger, the government opted to close the existing social protection project and launch a new initiative focused on youth empowerment—a key national priority. The forthcoming project, expected in FY26, will likely emphasize expanding employment opportunities for disadvantaged youth and strengthening government-led ASP and employment delivery systems.

**Looking ahead, new phases of ASP financing are expected in Burkina Faso and Niger.** In Burkina Faso, following the conclusion of the Social Safety Net Project, a new operation is planned for FY26. It is expected to focus on the economic empowerment of poor households and continued system-building, particularly around the deployment of the social registry.

# BURKINA FASO

## 5.1 BURKINA FASO

### *ASP World Bank Engagement in Burkina Faso*

**The Social Safety Net project (P124015), approved in FY14, closed in June 2024 after having disbursed US\$170 million, of which US\$38 million from the SASPP MDTF and achieved important results.** At its closing, the project had supported a total of 1.29 million individuals with monetary transfers (both regular and shock-responsive) and economic inclusion measures and supported the establishment of the national social registry and the registration of 277,220 households or about 20 percent of all poor households. These results were achieved through the investment project's financing but also synergies with other World Bank financing instruments, in particular Development Policy Operations and analytical outputs, including those financed by SASPP. The SASPP-supported technical assistance activities were sustained throughout the period despite the temporary absence of a project and provided a critical mechanism to maintain a strong technical engagement and policy dialogue. After some delays, a follow-up operation building on the project's experience and results is in preparation and is currently expected to be delivered during the second quarter of FY26.

**The West Africa Unique Identification for Regional Integration and Inclusion operation (P169594), which aims to increase access to government-recognized proof of identification, has also supported the ASP systems building agenda.** During its implementation, the project continues to provide financing to critical elements of the ASP system, particularly the social registry or Registre Social Unique (RSU), for example by providing financing for technical expertise and support to the management information system. The team furthermore continues to coordinate closely with the Finance, Competitiveness, and Innovation Global Practice on questions related to government-to-person (G2P) payments. Finally, the IMF

remains a key partner, with a program that includes a structural benchmark on public spending in the sector and thus monitors developments closely. The IMF's implication has been critical to the establishment of a national safety net program, the Programme d'appui à l'autonomisation des ménages pauvres et vulnérables (PAMPV). While its operationalization has slowed, it remains a key pillar of the ASP system going forward. Other development partners, such as the AFD, the European Union, and the German Cooperation (through KfW) have already indicated their intention to align their sector interventions with the program.

### *Changes in ASP context during FY25*

**The security situation in Burkina Faso has remained fragile. The Armed Conflict Location and Event Data (ACLED) initiative identified 7,522 fatalities caused by security incidents in 2024, compared to 8,494 in 2023.** The government's decision to suspend the use of the Cadre Harmonisé as a joint methodology to assess food insecurity has rendered the estimation of food insecurity in the country more difficult. The Integrated food Security Phase Classification (IPC) acute malnutrition analysis estimates that between August 2024 and July 2025, 425,000 children aged between six and 59 months could suffer from acute malnutrition. The lack of consensual and geolocated food insecurity estimates has complicated the planning and preparation for a coordinated response, a challenge that is compounded by reduction in humanitarian funding.

### *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 the poorest 15 percent and effectively respond to covariate shocks, including those related to climate.** Priorities include increasing the government's capacity to implement and scale

up the newly established national safety net program, PAMPV, and strengthening the underlying delivery systems, such as the EWS, the RSU, 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.

**The development and adoption of the PAMPV marks a major milestone in the country's ASP system.** The PAMPV contributes to the recently adopted National Social Protection Strategy (2024-2028), which aims to strengthen access to social protection to households and individuals affected by shocks. On the ASP delivery systems side, the deployment and sustainable management of the RSU by the government marks a major achievement. With support from SASPP under the social safety net project, the RSU covered 277,220 poor households (or just shy of 20 percent of all poor households in the country) by the end of FY25. Due to partner buy-in and high government capacity, critically supported by the social safety net project prior to its closing, the RSU continues to expand and will likely reach a coverage of almost 300,000 by the end of FY26.

### **Detailed SASPP activities**

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

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**With the closing of the social safety net project in June 2024, no recipient-executed activities have been implemented in FY25.** Results indicators related to these activities have thus plateaued at FY24 levels. However, the team is currently working with the Government to define a new operation, expected to be presented in FY26, to support critical elements of the national ASP system.

#### **BUILDING BLOCK 1: Institutional arrangements and partnerships**

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**In FY25, reforms of the national food security response system, supported by the World Bank with SASPP financing and through a Development Policy Operation, were endorsed by the government.** However, following the suspension of cash-based interventions, most initiatives aiming at strengthening the inclusion of ASP as part of

the response were not retained in the final version (the synergies with the national PAMPV program were removed, including the role of shock-response safety nets during the lean season) and the role of the international partners was diminished. Nevertheless, SASPP continued providing technical support to the Executive Secretariat of the National Food Security Council (*Secrétariat Exécutif du Conseil National de Sécurité Alimentaire*) to operationalize the lean season response manual (which has been a FY24 output) throughout the different stages of the national food security response' planning cycle. Specifically, SASPP supported the organization of several planning and lessons learned workshops with all actors involved in the 2024 lean season response (government, humanitarian actors, donors) to ensure efficient spatial distribution of aid, align modalities, and avoid duplication. In November 2024, the team also worked with WFP to organize a study tour of Ministers from Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger, to learn from Pakistan's experience with a national safety net program and social registries, which provided an opportunity for increased commitment to the ASP agenda. The team further continued its close collaboration with partners through bimonthly meetings of the social protection working group, regular tripartite meetings with AFD and KfW, monthly meetings of the RSU taskforce, and additional regular meetings with involved development partners (e.g. UNICEF, WFP, European Union, ECHO, Food and Agriculture Organization). The implementation of the PAMPV having slowed (see above), progress on putting in place its implementation structure and defining its administrative manual has not significantly advanced in FY25. In April 2025, the team, in collaboration with UNICEF and WFP, organized a one-week training on Adaptive Social Protection, which brought together around 30 participants from key government institutions. In June 2025, the World Bank, WFP, and UNICEF hosted the second ASP Stress Test in Ouagadougou, building on the first held in 2021. The workshop gathered representatives from the three organizations and provided a valuable platform to assess the current system, identify its strengths and limitations, and generate practical recommendations for improvement.

**Further support to the national food security response planning cycle and its institutional arrangements in FY26 will depend on the on-going policy dialogue on World Bank engagement in the sector.** In FY26, for the institutional arrangements and partnerships building block, the team's core focus will likely be on the operationalization of the

administrative structure of the PAMPV (see Building Block 2) and the continued collaboration and coordination with key partners.

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

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**In FY25, the PAMPV, adopted as a national program to guide social safety net interventions, underwent a significant review.** In the context of a workshop with government and development partners, during which the World Bank provided technical assistance, alternatives to cash transfers were discussed, leading to a revision focusing the PAMPV on economic inclusion, human capital measures and in-kind support. The updated PAMPV was adopted through a new joint ministerial order signed in November 2024. WFP and UNICEF participated as key stakeholders in the process and the World Bank team coordinated closely with them. Regular consultation meetings were held in the sub-group of partners for social protection to harmonize approaches and views and to plan support for the implementation of the revised program. The three institutions furthermore coordinated to provide technical assistance for the development of the PAMPV operational manual, ensuring that lessons learned from the implementation of the World Bank-and SASPP supported social safety net project were reflected. The finalization of the PAMPV operational manual is expected to conclude in the coming months. In addition to the support to the PAMPV, SASPP funding is currently being used to evaluate nutrition-sensitive accompanying measures (see thematic pillar E. ASP and human capital).

**During FY26, the team will continue to support the operationalization of the PAMPV.** The new World Bank lending operation planned for delivery in FY26 is expected to support the implementation of select elements of the PAMPV. The team will consider the integration of nutrition sensitive accompanying measures depending on the results of the on-going evaluation and the government's priorities. Regarding payments, the team will provide technical assistance on ensuring interoperability between the social registry, the unique identification system, the IDP database, and the payment platform.

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

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**During FY25, while discussions on shock-response financing have stalled, broader dialogue on the financing of ASP was sustained.** The suspension of cash transfers and

their removal from the lean season response framework have limited progress on the reform path towards institutionalizing the FASA as a financing vehicle for shock-responsive cash transfers. Activities around the shock-response financing building block have thus been limited in FY25. Regarding the overall financing of social protection in Burkina Faso, the SASPP team built on the analysis prepared for the April 2024 Economic Update (see FY24 annual report) to contribute to the IMF's Article IV Staff Report, underlining the inefficiencies in the country's social protection spending.

**For FY26, SASPP will mostly support activities related to overall social protection spending.** Given the above-described challenges, no activities are currently foreseen for FY26 on shock-response financing, though the team remains flexible to respond to potential evolutions in this area. The team will continue its on-going dialogue with the IMF on overall social protection spending.

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

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**In Burkina Faso, the social registry made impressive progress since the last SASPP Annual Report.** With financing from the World Bank and SASPP, the government registered 277,220 households—approximately 20 percent of poor households nationally—across two of the country's 13 regions by the closing of the social safety net project on June 30, 2024. Although no active operation has been in place since then, technical assistance to the RSU has continued throughout FY25, and the World Bank remains the government's partner of choice for advancing the registry. Bi-weekly meetings have been maintained to support the RSU's scale-up, ensuring continuous dialogue among stakeholders and close oversight of technical and logistical matters. Technical assistance facilitated the update of the targeting protocol, with a focus on hard-to-reach and insecure areas, primarily through partnerships with UN agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Through the World Bank-led Social Registry Task Force, partner coordination has strengthened. For example, the European Union mobilized resources to support the RSU's expansion, working with WFP and an NGO that had previously supported the pilot phase of the deployment in the first two regions. This close collaboration, based on shared expertise and best practices, helped accelerate the RSU's development in five additional regions. Building on World Bank technical assistance, WFP financing also enabled the registration of an additional 16,000 poor households in the Nord region.

## BOX 10 ENSURING GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP AND SUSTAINABILITY OF A SOCIAL REGISTRY IN A CONTEXT OF FRAGILITY, CONFLICT AND VIOLENCE

Supported by the IDA and the SASPP-financed Social Safety Net project, RSU deployment began in 2022, following an evaluation of existing databases and extensive stakeholder consultations. An operational manual and communication strategy were developed. Two pilot regions were chosen based on accessibility and poverty levels. For data collection, local NGOs handled community targeting in rural areas, while the national statistics institution and a research institute collected socio-economic data, which served as a basis for scoring. In urban areas a census sweep served as basis for a PMT-based approach. Based on lessons from the pilot the operational manual was updated. To expand the process to less secure areas, an additional protocol was developed and annexed to the updated manual.

As of June 2025, a total of 344,400 households are registered in the RSU, with funding from the World Bank, WFP, and the European Union. RSU data is used for targeting by various stakeholders, including government, bilateral and multilateral development partners, and NGOs. The support for the RSU, its data usage by various stakeholders, and government financing of the unit managing it demonstrate the broad acceptance of the RSU today.

Achieving this progress amidst institutional challenges, conflict, fragility, and violence required continuous adaptation and provided several insights:

- Use of complementary instruments: the World Bank team utilized various instruments, including SASPP-financed analytical work, development policy financing (DPF), investment policy financing (IPF), and technical assistance to support the government.
- Clarifying institutional arrangements: clear institutional arrangements were essential for smooth development and implementation of the social registry.
- Broad participation: continuous involvement of all stakeholders in decision-making processes ensured diverse voices were heard and contributed to the wide support for the RSU.
- Communication: ongoing communication about the social registry and its benefits at local levels fostered understanding and shared buy-in.
- Local knowledge: rolling out the RSU in pilot regions, especially in the context of fragility, conflict, and violence highlighted the importance of leveraging local knowledge through partnerships with local NGOs and associations and collaborating closely with local authorities.
- Government resources: utilizing government resources to finance the unit managing the social registry has been crucial for government ownership and continued commitment.
- Adaptation to changing needs: Adjusting deployment protocols in response to a deteriorating security context—and proceeding with expansion only in areas deemed safe—helped refine operational procedures.

**To bolster the registry’s management information system (MIS), a technical audit was completed, financed by the WURI project.** The audit identified key areas for improvement, notably in data protection and the integrity of recorded information. In parallel, technical assistance was provided to develop a strategy for integrating a unique identifier into the RSU, aimed at strengthening traceability and optimizing the delivery of social services. Finally, work is ongoing to align internally displaced people databases with the RSU, ensuring better inclusion of displaced populations in social protection systems.

**During FY25, the team also continued collaborating with the EWS unit.** The objective was to identify food and

nutrition security indicators collected via satellite imagery, aiming to enhance analytical granularity. A particular focus was placed on researching and discussing the Soil Water Index (SWI), which quantifies soil moisture conditions and holds strong potential for early drought detection.

**In FY26, the team will continue to provide technical assistance to the implementation of the social registry.** Once a new operation is approved, the World Bank will furthermore continue financing the social registry’s nation-wide roll-out. Given the current challenges in the policy dialogue and Burkina Faso’s removal from the Cadre Harmonisé process, no further support for the EWS is currently foreseen.

**TABLE 7 Summary activities and outputs for SASPP engagement in Burkina Faso**

Component	FY25 activities and outputs	FY26 planned activities and outputs
<b>Institutional arrangements and partnerships</b>	Supported the operationalization of the food security response manual	Just-in-time technical assistance based on government demand
	Conducted a study of the 2024 lean season response and organized planning and lessons learned workshops.	
	Continued the implementation of joint action plan with WFP	Continue implementing joint action plan with WFP with a focus on operationalizing the PAMPV and deploying the social registry.
	Co-organized a training on ASP for government representatives	
<b>Programs and delivery systems</b>	Conducted the ASP Stress Test	
	Continued providing technical assistance to the operationalization of the PAMPV.	Continue technical assistance on operationalization of PAMPV.
		Provide technical assistance on interoperability between social registry, unique identification and payment system
<b>Finance</b>	Contributed to IMF report (Article IV) on social protection spending	Continue dialogue with IMF on social protection spending
<b>Data and information</b>	Supported the elaboration of a targeting strategy in hard to reach and insecure areas	Support and provide technical assistance to social registry roll-out
	Provided technical assistance to the deployment of the social registry to 6 additional regions	Support interoperability of social registry and unique identification system
		Support implementation of recommendations from technical audit
	Validated the list of indicators and supported the operationalization of the EWS system	

# CHAD



## 5.2 CHAD

### *ASP World Bank Engagement in Chad*

**The World Bank’s support to Chad’s ASP agenda has evolved through a sequenced and scalable approach.**

This engagement began with the Chad Safety Nets Project (SNP, 2016–2020), which laid the foundation for national ASP systems by piloting monetary transfers and a productive inclusion intervention, while also establishing early delivery systems. It was followed by the Refugees and Host Communities Support Project (PARCA, P164748), approved in 2018 with an initial IDA allocation of US\$60 million. In 2019, PARCA was scaled up through additional financing of US\$81 million, including a US\$6 million contribution from the SASPP. It is expected to close in December 2025. PARCA expanded the ASP architecture to encompass refugees and host communities through regular and shock-responsive monetary transfers, productive inclusion activities, and institutional investments in targeting, payments, and the development of a social registry.

**A major shift occurred in FY24 with the government’s request for a national-scale ASP project.**

The Chad Adaptive and Productive Safety Nets Project (PFSAP, P502142)—approved in June 2024 and effective in November 2024—responds to this urgent demand. With a total budget of US\$120 million, including a strategic SASPP contribution of US\$20 million, the project aims to strengthen the national social protection system and scale up ASP through a unified national platform. It supports both system development and service delivery, structured around five core ASP instruments: the Unified Social Registry (USR), a digital payment module, the national EWS and food response system, a refugee management module, and a government-led national safety net program. The project design also integrates productive inclusion activities in the safety net program and a shock-response mechanism which can address floods, lean seasons, and forced displacement.

**In addition to financial support, the World Bank’s engagement—together with resources from SASPP—has provided essential technical support.**

This facilitated accelerated project preparation, mobilized additional IDA and government interest, and ensured the integration of ASP principles across delivery and targeting systems. The project has also generated synergies with other operations, benefiting from the Japan Social Development Fund, which supports accompanying measures and clean cooking initiatives among ASP beneficiaries, in coordination with the Chad Energy Access Scale-Up Project (P174495). It is also aligned with the Fragility and Resilience Project (P177163) and the N’Djamena Urban Resilience Project (P177044), which help expand ASP coverage to eastern and urban areas, respectively. Digital payments and secure ID development are supported through collaboration with the Chad Digital Transformation Project (P180000).

**ASP World Bank engagement has also informed broader policy dialogues and supported a broader set social protection policies and programs.**

It has informed the Human Capital Review (P177928), which underscored the critical role of ASP in reducing chronic poverty and food insecurity. The World Bank team remains an active member of the national social protection technical taskforce alongside UNICEF and WFP, contributing to the development of the national social protection strategy and supporting the scale-up of the USR. Moreover, technical work complements and creates synergies with initiatives from other development partners, including the RESPECCT project (Programme de Résilience Économique et Sociale des Populations de l’Est face aux Conflits et Changements Climatiques au Tchad, financed by the European Union and AFD), as well as a joint WFP–UNICEF initiative in western Chad.

## Changes in ASP context during FY25

**FY25 marked a pivotal moment in Chad's political and institutional landscape, concluding the transition process initiated in 2021 and ushering in a new chapter for development and social protection reform.** The adoption of a new constitution via national referendum in December 2023 led to the establishment of new institutions, culminating in presidential elections in May 2024. The election of the former transitional president signaled continuity in political leadership and reinforced commitment to the ASP agenda. This transition has been accompanied by strong government ownership and political will to advance social protection reforms. This commitment is reflected in several strategic initiatives. In January 2024, the Prime Minister reaffirmed the government's objective to expand the national safety net to reach one million people living in extreme poverty. The current President's political platform includes Project No. 3, which promotes an inclusive state with a focus on economic inclusion through ASP interventions, and Project No. 5, which emphasizes gender equity by prioritizing the socio-economic empowerment of women. The revised National Social Protection Strategy (2024–2028) positions ASP as a central pillar, with plans to establish a national social safety net program and a Unified Social Registry (USR). Additionally, the forthcoming National Development Plan is expected to highlight the importance of strengthening crisis response mechanisms, integrating vulnerable populations, and building resilience through economic inclusion and civil status documentation.

**Despite this strong political alignment, ASP implementation has faced significant challenges due to external pressures. Regional instability—particularly the conflict in Sudan—has led to large-scale displacement.** As of March 2025, Chad was hosting over 1.35 million refugees, the majority of whom (87%) were Sudanese, with more than half arriving in the eastern provinces since April 2023. In addition, an estimated 500,000 internally displaced people from previous crises remain in the country, placing immense pressure on already fragile systems. Food insecurity and humanitarian needs have worsened, exacerbated by a decline in external assistance.

**Chad continues to face one of the highest levels of food insecurity globally.** Climate-related shocks—such as recurrent droughts and erratic rainfall—have severely impacted agricultural production. Following emergency

declarations in both 2022 and 2024, the latest Cadre Harmonisé assessment estimates that 2.5 million people are in IPC Phase 3 or above (crisis or worse). Malnutrition rates have also deteriorated, rising from 28 percent in 2022 to 36.7 percent in 2024, underscoring the urgent need to scale up ASP interventions to respond to rising vulnerabilities.

## Key ASP developments and SASPP activities

**Chad's ASP system remains nascent, but recent reforms present a unique opportunity for systemic transformation.** The World Bank supports the government's long-term goal of building an integrated, adaptive, and productive ASP system to enhance the resilience of the poorest 15 percent of the population, especially against shocks like droughts and floods. This transition—from fragmented projects to a nationally led system—relies on a government-owned safety net program, a functional EWS, a social registry, and a robust payment platform. For lasting impact, the system must be institutionally anchored, consistently financed, and coordinated across humanitarian and development actors. Given Chad's fragile context, sustained high-level policy dialogue is essential.

**In FY25, notable progress was made.** The team supported the elaboration of the National Social Protection Strategy (2024–2028), aligned with national priorities and pending endorsement. ASP priorities were also integrated into the upcoming NDP and draft World Bank Group Country Partnership Framework (CPF). The Bank worked closely with the government to prepare the Chad Adaptive and Productive Safety Nets Project, approved in June and effective by November 2024. An institutional assessment is underway to guide its implementation. On shock response, the team drew on lessons from COVID-19 and refugee responses to support ASP activities in the East. In collaboration with UNHCR and the National Agency for Secure Documents (Agence Nationale des Titres Sécurisés - ANATS), the Bank supported the receipt by 25,000 refugees of biometric IDs—a key step toward socioeconomic inclusion. The Bank also supported digital payment systems and launched a national grievance hotline. On systems development, it advanced USR efforts, launched vulnerability mapping, and facilitated regional peer learning. Institutional capacity for EWS was also strengthened. Strategic collaboration with UNICEF and WFP continued through a technical taskforce focused on USR implementation and coordination.

**Looking ahead to FY26, the focus will be on consolidating progress and scaling nationally.** The team will continue providing technical support to the new Ministry of Social Action, advocating for the endorsement of the National Social Protection Strategy, and mobilizing resources. The ASP project will serve as the platform for the rollout of the national program. Evaluations will inform refinements to safety net design, productive inclusion, and refugee-targeting strategies. USR development will progress through operational manuals, MIS setup, and a multi-stakeholder steering committee. By end-FY26, the USR is expected to be operational in all 23 provinces and serve as a common targeting platform, with an on-demand pilot in select areas. With partner support, the USR aims to reach one million households by 2030. Engagement with MTI Global Practice, the IMF, and others will explore options for domestic financing of ASP at scale.

### **Detailed SASPP activities**

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

**Under the PARCA, SASPP contributed US\$6 million to complement US\$135 million in IDA financing.** SASPP support expanded significantly under the Chad Adaptive and Productive Safety Nets Project (PFSAP, P502142), with an additional US\$20 million, bringing the project's total to US\$120 million. This increased allocation is vital to advancing Chad's ASP agenda. In addition to supporting the development of core systems, through SASPP, 60,000 households received emergency monetary transfers in response to the Sudanese refugee crisis, and 25,000 refugees were issued secure IDs.

**In FY26, SASPP funding under both PARCA and PFSAP will continue to strengthen core ASP delivery systems, institutional capacity, and operational frameworks.** Planned activities include launching the baseline impact evaluation of the productive inclusion component, supporting national experts to scale implementation, and advancing the USR with a focus on institutional development and roadmap execution. SASPP will also back the development and rollout of the national social protection program, including productive inclusion and shock response, help establish a steering committee, provide technical support on the program's management information system, and conduct analyses to strengthen ASP financing.

#### **BUILDING BLOCK 1: Institutional arrangements and partnerships**

**In FY25, the team supported the Government's social protection strategy by promoting ASP principles and enhancing coordination between the national social protection program and the USR.** In line with the National Social Protection Strategy, substantial technical support was provided to establish key institutional structures, including the creation of a USR steering committee and a technical committee. Draft decrees for both committees have been submitted for ministerial approval. The team is also finalizing an institutional assessment to inform the design and setup of the national social protection program. Institutional strengthening efforts were extended to the National Commission for Assistance to Refugees (*Commission Nationale d'accueil de Réinsertion des Réfugiés*), culminating in a memorandum of understanding with ANATS, the government body responsible for issuing secure identification. As a result, in February 2025, 25,000 secure ID cards were issued to refugees, marking a significant step in their inclusion within the national social protection system. These IDs enhance refugees' access to mobility, formal employment, and productive and financial services. The World Bank continues to play an active role in the Social Protection Task Force, alongside WFP and UNICEF, which serves as a platform for aligning ASP approaches, particularly those related to food insecurity. In April 2025, the World Bank conducted an ASP Stress Test during the first core course on "Strengthening the Social Protection System in Chad," targeting project teams, policymakers, government officials, and partners.

**In FY26, the World Bank will continue supporting the Government of Chad in strengthening its ASP system as outlined in the national social protection strategy.** Efforts will focus on further applying ASP principles and deepening coordination between key tools, including the national safety net program and the USR. In addition, technical assistance will be provided to the national food shock management system (Dispositif National de Prévention et de Gestion des Crises – DNPGC) to improve the planning, monitoring and coordination of the lean season response. Finally, the team will also sustain its collaboration with other sectors and remain active in the Social Protection Task Force to foster alignment, coherence, and operational synergy in advancing the ASP agenda.

## BOX 11 COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE WORLD BANK, UNICEF AND WFP TOWARDS ASP AGENDA IN CHAD

Chad, with 47% of its population living below the poverty line and consistently low human development indicators (ranking 186th out of 189 on the 2018 Human Development Index and last on the Human Capital Index), faces recurrent climatic shocks and an increasing influx of refugees and IDPs. To support the government's development efforts in this challenging context, the World Bank, through its ASP program, has strengthened collaboration with United Nations agencies and other humanitarian and development partners to achieve greater impact.

This partnership led to the creation of a Social Protection Task Force in 2023, bringing together the World Bank, UNICEF, and WFP. Chaired by the World Bank, the Task Force meets regularly and aims to: (i) develop a shared vision for supporting Chad's social protection systems; (ii) improve information sharing and coordination; (iii) enhance the country's capacity for shock-responsive social protection; (iv) foster technical and analytical collaboration; (v) support the government in formulating and operationalizing social protection policies and strategies; and (vi) promote evidence-based program design.

Key outcomes of this collaboration include:

- Joint support for the new National Social Protection Strategy (2024–2028), technically validated by the government in 2023.
- Strengthening of the USR, expanding its coverage to over 700,000 households, adopting a harmonized questionnaire, and developing a joint roadmap for its vision and deployment.
- Capacity-building initiatives targeting government institutions and key ASP stakeholders.

Building on this progress, the World Bank, UNICEF, and WFP remain committed to supporting Chad in establishing a national social protection program under the Adaptive and Productive Social Nets (PFSAP) project. This includes joint efforts to: (i) reinforce government leadership and partnerships on ASP; (ii) improve data quality and availability; and (iii) strengthen shock-response systems while implementing productive inclusion measures.

### BUILDING BLOCK 2: Programs and Delivery Systems

**In FY25, the World Bank team focused on analytical work to inform the development of a national safety net program and to strengthen the systems required for its large-scale implementation.** Key activities included drafting terms of reference and recruiting consultants for the process evaluation of the adaptive transfer program (targeting COVID-19 response and Cameroonian refugees), as well as for regular monetary transfers, productive measures, and human capital support under PARCA. The process evaluation assesses the full implementation cycle—from household identification to service delivery (e.g., benefits, subsidies, training)—and includes beneficiary satisfaction. It also reviews

compliance with key project reference documents, including the project operations manual. In parallel, an in-depth assessment of financial institutions, telecommunications companies, and regulatory frameworks for digital payment feasibility is underway, with results expected in FY26.

**In FY26, while completing activities initiated in FY25, the team will continue supporting the government's efforts to establish a national safety net program and build the institutional systems needed for its effective delivery.** This includes support for the creation and capacity building of the program's Permanent Secretariat. A key priority will be the development of a strategy for the institutional framework and a gradual transition plan to ensure full government ownership

of the program. In addition to providing implementation support for the PFSAP, the team will finalize the baseline impact evaluation of the productive inclusion component, and deliver the comprehensive analysis of financial institutions, telecom operators, and regulatory conditions for digital payment viability. The team will also complete the ongoing process evaluation. It will also finalize the digital GRM system assessment, after initial delays. This evaluation will review the GRM's capacity to address sensitive issues such as gender-based violence and personal data protection, as well as its overall user responsiveness and adherence to standards.

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

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**During FY25, significant progress was made in collaboration with the CDP, notably through the completion of a disaster risk finance diagnostic.** This diagnostic provides a detailed overview of the geographic distribution and severity of major disasters in Chad, evaluates the current suite of disaster risk finance instruments available for ASP, and offers actionable recommendations for strengthening them. In parallel, policy dialogue efforts advanced through collaboration with the World Bank's MTI team and the IMF, aiming to promote sustainable ASP financing, including the potential establishment of a dedicated budget line for the regular national safety net program. In May 2025, the IMF proposed new Extended Credit Facility program includes support for the expansion of social safety nets, as part of the program's support to the social inclusion dimension of Chad's national development plan.

**In FY26, the World Bank team will build on FY25 activities by enhancing Chad's flood response capacity through quantitative, trigger-based approaches.** The flood risk profile developed (see Pillar B, Component 1) will be used to inform the design of a rapid flood response pilot under the PFSAP. Further technical work will be undertaken to establish a trigger mechanism capable of detecting floods remotely and in near-real time. On the policy front, the team will continue engaging with the MTI team to advocate for the adoption of a dedicated safety net budget line, potentially as a prior action in a future Development Policy Operation.

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

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**In FY25, the World Bank provided extensive technical assistance to strengthen the Unified Social Registry (USR)**

**and the EWS.** An international consultant was recruited to support the USR, with assistance focused on the development of an operational manual, the establishment of steering and technical committees, and the construction of a robust MIS. Progress was made on finalizing the operational manual, which articulates the vision and strategy for USR expansion. The harmonized questionnaire was reviewed, and the proxy means test formula was updated using the latest household survey data, incorporating considerations for refugee populations. To support the USR's geographic and thematic expansion, the team developed terms of reference and hired a consultant to carry out a vulnerability mapping exercise; the first draft of the report is expected in early FY26. A paper on operating in FCV context in Chad has also been prepared as part of this effort, analyzing the ASP context in Chad and drawing on global and regional experience. In collaboration with the CDP, the team also advanced work on EWS by developing early drought indicators for integration into the Cadre Harmonisé. Different climate-related early warning indicators were tested to support faster, more precise data collection and analysis for emergency response. Furthermore, the disaster risk finance diagnostic mentioned under the finance Building Block included an analysis of food insecurity prediction using remotely sensed data—an input that could significantly enhance Chad's food security EWS in the future.

**In FY26, the focus will be on finalizing both the institutional and technical frameworks for the USR.** Significant support will be directed toward implementing a data management platform that aligns with international standards for data privacy and protection. In line with the government's goal of gradually deploying the social registry nationwide by 2030, the World Bank will support data collection efforts in N'Djamena and surrounding flood-prone areas. This will serve as a pilot for a dynamic social registry—an essential step for increasing the USR's operational visibility and solidifying its role as a key coordination and targeting tool in shock response. The vulnerability mapping exercise will further inform the nationwide rollout strategy. Simultaneously, work will continue to strengthen the EWS and its integration into national decision-making processes. Planned activities include the continued development and refinement of early drought indicators to enhance the quality and timeliness of inputs into the Cadre Harmonisé.

**TABLE 8** Summary activities and outputs for SASPP engagement in Chad

Component	FY25 activities and outputs	FY26 planned activities and outputs
<b>Institutional arrangements and partnerships</b>	Played an active role in the Social Protection Task Force	Continue to support the SP Task Force with other partners to ensure coordination and synergies.
	Signed a memorandum of understanding with ANATS allowing the issuance of ID cards to 25,000 refugees	Elaboration of the DNP GC strategy and technical assistance to improve the planning, monitoring, and coordination of the response.
	Conducted an institutional assessment for the establishment of the national safety net program and supported the creation of the Permanent Secretariat	Continue supporting the Permanent Secretariat.
	Conducted the ASP Stress Test and delivered a core course on Strengthening the Social Protection System in Chad	
<b>Programs and delivery systems</b>	Carried out a process evaluation to inform the future national safety net program.	Finalize the process evaluation and implement the recommendations.
		Technical assistance to the administrators of the national safety net program to implement and coordinate the program.
		Evaluate the digital GRM system to understand its ability to address sensitive issues and user feedback.
<b>Finance</b>	Conducted policy dialogue for the potential inclusion of a budget line for regular safety net financing in future Development Policy Operation.	Continue the policy dialogue and advocate for the creation of a budget line dedicated to regular safety nets.
	Finalized disaster risk finance diagnostic with the CDP.	Building on findings from diagnostic, support Government in preparing rapid flood response pilot program.
		Disseminate the flood risk profile.
<b>Data and information</b>	Supported the development of the USR platform, including the development of its operational manual, and specifications for the MIS.	Finalize the development of the USR platform, the operational manual and the MIS.
	Updated the proxy means test formula using the latest poverty survey data considering the refugee status.	Support interoperability of social registry and unique identification system
	Supported 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.	Finalize the development of early drought indicators and pilot climate early warning indicator(s).
	Conducted an analysis of food insecurity prediction using remotely sensed data.	



## 5.3 MALI

### *ASP World Bank Engagement in Mali*

**The Government of Mali and the World Bank opened a new phase in their collaboration on ASP.** Following on the Emergency Social Safety Nets Project “Jigisémejiri” (2014-23), new ASP financing will be provided as part of an additional financing to the Sub-Saharan Africa Women’s Empowerment and Demographic Dividend Plus (SWEDD+) Project (P176693). Under SWEDD+, the total financing amount for Mali approved in April 2025 amounts to US\$75 million, including US\$15 million from SASPP. Alongside activities focused on increasing girls’ and women’s access to learning and their utilization of health services, the project will support productive inclusion activities targeting poor and vulnerable girls and women, providing employment opportunities through an integrated package of productive inclusion measures. It is designed to address key constraints preventing women and girls from poor households from engaging in productive, climate-resilient livelihoods. In addition to the deployment of these economic activities, the project will provide critical resources to strengthen national ASP systems, including the national registry, program design and institutional arrangements, MIS and GRMs, as well as capacity building for core government institutions.

**Support to the social protection sector in Mali also continues through two ongoing operations.** First, part of the agenda is supported through the Mali Drylands Development Project (P164052), a joint SP–Agriculture Global Practice project totaling US\$90 million, of which US\$18.5 million is allocated to SP components. This component aims to improve agricultural productivity and strengthen the resilience of rural households living in targeted arid areas. To date, the Mali Drylands Development Project has supported the enrollment of approximately 78,000 households in the RSU and the provision of regular monetary transfers to 11,400 households. In addition, productive transfers have benefited 8,460

individuals, 65 percent of whom are women. Second, the ASP agenda also benefits from the Promote Access to Finance, Entrepreneurship, and Employment Project (P168812), a joint SP–Finance, Competitiveness, and Innovation Global Practice project totaling US\$60 million, with US\$26 million dedicated to SP components. This project supports young people in fragile regions by facilitating income-generating activities and providing temporary employment opportunities through labor-intensive public works. Both projects continue to contribute to building adaptive social protection systems by financing the Unified Social Registry (Registre Social Unique – RSU), including its extension and updating of data on poor and vulnerable households in the project intervention areas.

**In addition to the operational engagement, the World Bank team continues to promote the ASP agenda and its tools, including the RSU, and to provide technical assistance for their implementation.** In addition to ongoing technical support and participation in the sectoral working groups, in late February, the team supported the organization of a landmark national conference on social protection in Bamako, which brought together government representatives, development partners, and civil society. The conference’s recommendations are closely aligned with the ASP agenda, notably emphasizing the preparation of a national social safety net program.

### *Changes in ASP context during FY25*

**Security and other challenges have significantly slowed the government’s progress in implementing the ASP building blocks in Mali.** While the establishment of the RSU as the main entry point for social programs represents a crucial milestone, progress in other areas—such as institutional arrangements and partnerships—has been hampered by the unstable environment. International ODA funding cuts further affected development financing, directly impacting the delivery of key programs.

**Projections for the 2025 lean season (June–August 2025) are concerning.** Around 1.47 million people (more than 6% of the population) are expected to face crisis conditions or worse (IPC Phase 3 and above). An additional over 4 million people (more than 17% of the population) are expected to be under stress conditions (IPC Phase 2). Meanwhile, insecurity continues to displace populations, particularly in the regions of Mopti and Gao. As January 2025, Mali hosts 378,363 internally displaced persons, including 19,000 displaced due to the floods in 2024. This evolving humanitarian situation underscores the urgent need for increased resources and investment to support vulnerable communities and strengthen resilience-building efforts.

### **Key ASP developments and SASPP activities**

**The overarching vision for Mali is to establish a comprehensive ASP system capable of rapid and efficient scale-up during crises, confirmed by the February 2025 Bamako conference on social protection.** By 2030, the objective is to support the Government of Mali in building a comprehensive and integrated social protection system that fosters resilience across its population. Building on the achievements of previous phases, Mali’s ASP system aims to protect poor and vulnerable households who face multiple, compounding risks—including climate-induced food insecurity, climate-related shocks, and insecurity. With support from the World Bank and the SASPP, ongoing and planned initiatives aim to strengthen national systems, fostering an integrated and sustainable approach to productive social protection that can be swiftly scaled up when necessary. These efforts are designed to: (1) build the capacity for coordinated sustainable financing from both government and donors; (2) achieve comprehensive national coverage of productive safety nets for the most vulnerable groups; (3) optimize the use of the RSU to streamline processes, enhance coordination, and improve the targeting of poverty-focused social spending; (4) fortify the system’s ability to respond effectively to climate shocks; and (5) leverage a robust payments platform to deliver assistance more efficiently and transparently.

**The strategy places a strong emphasis on the economic inclusion of vulnerable populations, ensuring the system’s durability and wide adoption by the authorities.** Central to this approach is the integration of humanitarian and long-term social assistance, critical for creating a coherent and

resilient support system in the face of overlapping shocks. To strategically advance this vision, joint advocacy and operational support from key partners—including UNICEF, WFP, and the European Union—will be pivotal. Their collaboration will ensure a coordinated approach, maximizing the effectiveness and sustainability of Mali’s ASP system.

### **Detailed SASPP activities**

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

**During FY25, no recipient-executed activities financed by SASPP were implemented.** However, as mentioned earlier, a total of US\$15 million has been allocated to ASP systems development and program expansion under the recently approved Sub-Saharan Africa Women’s Empowerment and Demographic Dividend Plus (SWEDD+) Project (P176693). In FY26, as the SWEDD+ project becomes effective, SASPP financed recipient-executed activities are expected to start again. In addition to supporting the implementation of economic inclusion activities, SASPP resources will focus on strengthening national ASP systems, including the national registry, the design of the national safety net program, the development of core MIS and GRMs, as well as capacity building for core government institutions.

#### **BUILDING BLOCK 1: Institutional Arrangements and Partnerships**

**During FY25, the World Bank team supported several initiatives to enhance coordination between the government and development partners.** The team maintained close collaboration with partners such as WFP, the European Union, and UNICEF, working to align technical discussions and present the government with a joint, coordinated approach to ASP support. Among key activities, the team convened monthly meetings of the Social Protection, Food Security, and Nutrition Working Groups, ensuring regular dialogue and alignment across stakeholders. To broaden engagement and strengthen ownership, the team continued to raise awareness of social protection through workshops and public events. A notable highlight was the National Conference on Social Protection, which reached beyond government and partners to include civil society organizations. The conference emphasized widespread appreciation for the tools developed—particularly the RSU—and reinforced the

urgent need for the definition and establishment of a national social safety net program. In November 2024, the team also worked with WFP to organize a study tour of Ministers from Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger, to learn from Pakistan's experience with a national safety net program and social registries, which provided an opportunity for increased commitment to this agenda. The team also continued to support the development of the new National Social Protection Policy (PNSP), with the World Bank serving as a member of the elaboration committee. However, progress on the PNSP has been slower than anticipated. In response, the team is considering additional measures to support UNICEF, the lead development partner agency, in accelerating the process. In April 2025, the World Bank, WFP, and UNICEF co-hosted the second ASP Stress Test in Bamako, building on the first stress test held in 2021. The workshop gathered 15 representatives from key government institutions involved in ASP. It provided a valuable platform to assess the current ASP system, identify strengths and gaps, and generate practical recommendations for system improvements.

**During FY26, the team will continue supporting the elaboration of the updated PNSP as well as the policy dialogue necessary to facilitate the establishment of the National Council for Food Security, Nutrition, and Social Protection (Conseil National de Sécurité Alimentaire, Nutrition et Protection Sociale).** The objective is to strengthen coordination among stakeholders across the food security, nutrition, and social protection sectors. Key goals for operationalizing the National Council include the merging of institutional and policy frameworks governing food security and social protection, creating a cohesive and unified approach to addressing these critical areas. Furthermore, the initiative aims to enhance the shock response coordination framework by facilitating dialogue between the Government and a broader range of stakeholders, extending beyond traditional disaster risk management and humanitarian actors. The ultimate goal is to strengthen the linkages between humanitarian interventions and national safety nets, ensuring a more efficient and effective response to future shocks. Finally, the team will continue supporting the government in developing the new PNPS.

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

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**During FY25, the team maintained an active dialogue with the World Bank health team to identify and promote**

**synergies between sectors,** resulting in the integration of ASP elements into the SWEDD+ Project, notably through the provision of productive economic inclusion activities and support to the RSU. The team also provided support to the Government for the development of a future national social safety net program through dialogues and workshops. For example, with SASPP funding the team facilitated the participation of two government representatives to a regional workshop on national safety net program in Mauritania in November 2024. The program will improve the coherence and efficiency of the country's national social protection system and increase access to social safety nets for poor and vulnerable households. A study initially planned to inform the program's design—specifically on targeting approaches—was deemed premature, given that discussions around targeting modalities have not yet progressed. Consequently, the study on the role of local committees in beneficiary selection has been placed on hold and will be reconsidered once these discussions advance. However, a study on the adaptations of the Jigisémejiri program to fragility, conflict, and violence was completed and will serve as an important reference for the design of a future national program.

**During FY26, the team will continue to support the design of the national social safety net program aimed at supporting poor and vulnerable populations in Mali.** Key activities include establishing the program's institutional arrangements; designing the components; and determining the implementation modalities, such as the type of benefits, the program's geographic deployment, and beneficiary selection. Once those are defined, support will be provided to the development of the core systems required for the program's implementation.

## **BUILDING BLOCK 3: Finance**

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**During FY25, the team supported a diagnostic on disaster risk financing and a study on financing instruments for shock response with the CDP.** The diagnostic provides an overview of (i) the main disaster events over the past 20 years, (ii) existing legislation, institutional arrangements and government programs to deliver and finance disaster response and social protection, and (iii) disaster risk finance instruments relevant to ASP. The study on financing instruments aimed to inform the future direction of the team's engagement, particularly regarding whether to prioritize strengthening the Partners' Common Fund (Fonds Commun

des Partenaires) or the Food Security Fund (Fonds de la Sécurité Alimentaire) as the primary financing vehicle for adaptive social protection. The objective is to identify an existing contingency fund that can serve to channel shock-responsive monetary transfer and act as a financing vehicle under the government leadership and in a coordinated manner.

**In FY26, the team will continue to support the development of a financing vehicle for ASP in Mali.** This will include providing training, technical assistance, and leading the policy dialogue around potential reforms needed to enhance the vehicle's effectiveness. In addition, the team plans to conduct a study on the disbursement rules and triggers to ensure that the financing mechanism is responsive, efficient, and capable of delivering timely support during shocks.

Building Block 4: Data and information

**During FY25, the data and information building block was a major focus for the team. Support was primarily directed toward strengthening the RSU,** which continues to be widely utilized by various programs, even in the absence of a national social safety net program. Key achievements included the finalization of the RSU development plan, providing strategic options for expanding the coverage of the RSU nationwide. In addition, support for drafting the RSU Operational Manual was provided, addressing key areas such as institutional arrangements, targeting methodologies, GRM, and management information systems. On the EWS front, the team conducted a comprehensive study focusing on (i) mapping of key actors, (ii) identify strengths and weaknesses, and (iii) exploring synergies between the food security EWS and ASP. Specifically, the ability to respond to shocks in a timely and effective manner relies on accurate, qualitative and predictable information.

## BOX 12 MAPPING OF KEY ACTORS AND SYNERGIES BETWEEN THE EARLY WARNING SYSTEM FOR FOOD SECURITY AND ASP IN MALI.

Mali is facing a critical situation driven by a confluence of crises stemming from security disruptions, regional instability, recurrent climate shocks, and ongoing political uncertainty. The variability of rainfall—exacerbated by climate change—has heightened the vulnerability of the agricultural sector, with both droughts and floods affecting millions of people. Armed conflicts have further compounded the situation, triggering large-scale population displacements and increasing the number of individuals in need of humanitarian assistance.

These overlapping challenges underscore the urgent need to strengthen food security systems and enhance access to humanitarian aid. A more integrated and effective crisis response is essential to mitigate the impacts of these shocks and to build the resilience of affected populations, particularly the most vulnerable groups.

In support of the Malian Government's efforts, the SASPP funded a study to assess existing synergies among crisis response mechanisms, with the goal of making decision-making processes more timely, coordinated, and targeted in the face of shocks. The study included an in-depth analysis of the roles and relationships between key actors, as well as methodologies for data collection and analysis related to food security and emergency management. Special attention was given to factors such as data periodicity, spatial coverage, relevance, and accessibility.

The study put forward several recommendations, including: (i) strengthening coordination between key government entities such as the General Directorate of Civil Protection and the Food Security Commission; (ii) enhancing the capacity of local and regional structures, particularly local authorities, to improve crisis management; (iii) improving beneficiary targeting mechanisms; (iv) advancing data management systems to support timely and accurate decision-making; and (v) reinforcing the Early Warning System (EWS) to ensure better preparedness and response.

During FY26, the team will continue to advance the data and information agenda, with the objective to further develop the RSU, focusing on strengthening data protection mechanisms and establishing an efficient complaint management and resolution mechanism. Specific activities will include: (1) finalizing and operationalizing the RSU Operational Manual; (2) revising and improving the data collection methodology, including enhancing community-based targeting mechanisms, socio-economic data collection, harmonized questionnaires, and update protocols; (3) developing a specific methodology for shock-responsive use of the RSU, notably through the

deployment of a “light” questionnaire; and (4) launching a massive communication campaign to raise public awareness about the RSU and its benefits.

Based on the mapping exercise completed in FY25, the team will also continue to support the EWS to enhance predictive capacities for climate shocks, ensuring more scientific precision and timeliness. Activities will include the digitalization of historical archives, strengthening collaboration with data providers, and training staff to optimize early warning capabilities.

**TABLE 9 Summary activities and outputs for SASPP engagement in Mali**

Component	FY25 activities and outputs	FY26 planned activities and outputs
Institutional arrangements and partnerships	Raised awareness on social protection and the RSU through workshops (including the national SP conference) addressing a large audience.	Continue to raise awareness and build support for ASP principles and instruments.
	Supported the establishment of the national council for food security, nutrition and social protection.	Continue to support the dialogue to facilitate the establishment of the national Council for food security, Nutrition and Social protection.
	Supported the government of Mali in the elaboration of the new social protection policy (PNPS).	Continue to support the government of Mali in the elaboration of the new PNPS.
	Conducted the ASP Stress Test and disseminated the report.	
Programs and delivery systems	Supported the government in the elaboration of a national social safety net program.	Continue to support the Government in the elaboration and the adoption of the national social safety net program.
		Support the government in the design of a national payment platform, including an operational manual, and interoperability options.
Finance	Conducted a study on two contingency funds ( <i>Fond de la Sécurité Alimentaire and Fond Commun des Partenaires</i> ).	Continue the dialogue to identify a potential shock-responsive financing vehicle for ASP.
	Conducted a disaster risk finance diagnostic and disseminated the results	
Data and information	Provided technical support to the Government in preparation of the RSU development plan.	Support the implementation of the RSU development plan
	Supported the preparation of the operational manual for the RSU, including methodology for updating mechanism	Continue support towards finalization of operational manual for the RSU
	Conducted a comprehensive study on the EWS and its synergies with ASP	Technical assistance to EWS unit (digitalization of historical archives, strengthening collaboration with data provider, staff training, etc.)

# MAURITANIA

## 5.4 MAURITANIA

### *ASP World Bank Engagement in Mauritania*

**SASPP activities in Mauritania are anchored in the Social Safety Net System Project II, implemented by the Taazour General Delegation.** The project aims 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, 2015–2020), the second phase was approved in April 2020 with a budget of US\$72 million, including US\$7 million from the SASPP MDTF. In April 2021, an initial additional financing of US\$13 million, funded by the SASPP MDTF, was approved to expand the 2021 lean season response, addressing the lasting impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The AFD also contributed parallel co-financing of EUR 5 million, followed by an additional EUR 2.5 million in November 2022, to support shock response systems and transfers. Significant reforms were also supported by a series of World Bank Development Policy Operations, leading to the establishment of an institutional shock-response framework in 2021 and a risk financing mechanism in 2022. In April 2024, a second additional financing of US\$36 million was approved, supported by the SASPP MDTF with a grant of US\$10 million. This financing aims to sustain the regular safety net, expand coverage to include additional refugees, broaden the social registry, strengthen the shock response system, and advance the disaster risk financing agenda. Additionally, close collaboration with the IMF facilitated the institutionalization of the national safety net program through a decree in April 2024 and strengthened government ownership and financing of shock-response programs. A new series of Development Policy Operations is likely to be prepared during FY26 to support key reforms needed to clarify and strengthen the institutional framework for flood response in the country.

**Building on a decade of progress, the Government requested World Bank support for the next phase of its ASP system development through a Program-for-Results (PforR) operation.** The PforR aims to reinforce the adaptive social protection system and promote productive livelihoods, aligning with government objectives. It will support the upcoming Taazour 2025–2029 multiannual plan—whose framework was approved by the Steering Committee in March 2025—as well as the new strategy of the *Observatoire à la Sécurité Alimentaire* (Food Security Observatory). Centered on three results areas—improving targeting, providing stronger household support for productivity, and reinforcing government leadership in shock response—the PforR is expected to be approved in FY26, with a budget of US\$30 million from IDA. PforR's unique features include the use of a country's own institutions and processes, and the linking of fund disbursement directly to the achievement of specific program results. In contrast, traditional investment projects focus on outputs, with disbursements based on inputs and expenditures. The PforR approach helps build institutional capacity, enhances effectiveness and efficiency, and supports the achievement of tangible, sustainable program results. This would be the first PforR supporting ASP in the region and can provide a blueprint for future engagement in more mature contexts.

### *Changes in ASP context during FY25*

**Following Mauritania's presidential elections in June 2024, the newly formed government reinvigorated its leadership of the adaptive social protection agenda.** This renewed momentum is evident in Taazour's efforts to expand the coverage and effectiveness of social safety nets, align multiannual planning with emerging needs, and foster greater coordination among key government agencies. This increase in government commitment lays a solid foundation for future ASP initiatives, including the upcoming PforR operation.

**Meanwhile, Mauritania continues to face a growing influx of refugees, primarily from Mali, seeking safety in the Mbera camp and surrounding host communities.**

As of the end of February 2025, UNHCR estimates that the country is hosting approximately 167,791 Malian refugees and asylum seekers across both urban and rural areas. These arrivals are putting additional pressure on resources, particularly as humanitarian funding declines. In response, the government—working in collaboration with UNHCR and other partners—has formally integrated refugees into the national social registry, facilitating their access to social protection programs such as Tekavoul and economic inclusion initiatives. These efforts aim to strengthen resilience among both refugee and host populations, while establishing more sustainable support mechanisms.

**The combined effects of cyclical shocks and structural vulnerabilities continue to pose significant food security risks.**

The March 2025 Cadre Harmonisé estimates that approximately 590,000 people will face acute food and nutrition insecurity during the 2025 lean season—a slight improvement from 656,000 in 2024, yet still indicative of persistent fragility. These conditions underscore the critical importance of a robust EWS, timely food security assessments, and a coordinated response involving both the government and its partners. While the broader shock-response framework is still evolving, there is growing recognition of the need to invest in sustainable, climate-adaptive economic inclusion measures that address both immediate emergencies and long-term resilience.

### **Key ASP developments and SASPP activities**

**Throughout FY25, the World Bank team continued to support the government in strengthening existing systems and shaping the future of Tekavoul which will be backed by the upcoming PforR.**

Notably, the SASPP team played an instrumental role in: (1) facilitating discussions on the preparation of the multiannual Taazour program (2025–2029), with a particular focus on economic inclusion and robust entry and exit strategies for Tekavoul; (2) driving the comprehensive update of the social registry and laying the groundwork for continuous updates, moving toward a more dynamic model; (3) supporting the rollout of Tekavoul in Nouakchott, which included introducing digital payments and tailoring social promotion activities to the urban context; (4) advancing the implementation of economic inclusion

measures for both graduating beneficiaries and new participants, including refugees and host communities; (5) reinforcing shock-responsive programs by strengthening coordination and operationalizing the National Fund for the Response to Food and Nutritional Crises (FNRCAN); (6) conducting a diagnostic of the MIS to enhance interoperability, transparency, and overall efficiency; (7) carrying out a SPARKS (Social Protection Assessment Resource Kit for Systems) assessment, presented to the government in March, with the final report due later in the fiscal year; and (8) supporting preparations to expand digital payments under Tekavoul beyond urban areas. In parallel, the World Bank team advanced preparations for the new operation, engaging in substantive dialogue with the government to draft the Concept Note. Collaboration with UN agencies (WFP, UNICEF, UNHCR, ILO), the IMF, the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), and other partners was sustained and expanded, ensuring that ASP initiatives remained aligned with broader sectoral priorities.

**Looking ahead to FY26, SASPP support will focus on deepening key reforms and scaling up critical initiatives to strengthen Mauritania’s ASP system.**

A key priority will be the rollout of social registry updates to maintain accurate and dynamic data. The program will also implement economic inclusion measures in Hodh El Chargui, targeting both refugees and host communities to boost resilience and livelihoods. The entry and exit process for Tekavoul, scheduled for September 2025, will require strong technical assistance to ensure smooth transitions and effective onboarding. At the same time, SASPP will back reforms in the MIS and support the digitalization of payments, aimed at enhancing transparency, interoperability, and efficiency. On the shock-response front, the team will support the 2025 lean season response, leveraging the second additional financing to maximize reach and impact. Strengthening FNRCAN remains a top priority, particularly improving its financial planning and operational efficiency. Finally, the program will support the transition to the new PforR, engaging in high-level policy dialogue to promote increased government financing for social protection. This includes preparing for a sustainable human resources transition, essential for the long-term institutionalization of ASP initiatives.

## Detailed SASPP activities

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

**In FY25, the government made significant progress in financing and implementing both regular and shock-responsive social protection programs, demonstrating strong leadership and commitment.** Notably, the government-funded shock-response programs—Elmaouna and Tekavoul Shock—supported 38,516 households (56% of the National Response Plan target), with funding bolstered by the IMF program. Mauritania’s commitment to financing ASP illustrated the strong national ownership of the system. As a result of this strong ownership, SASPP resources were not used during FY25 lean season response but kept for FY26. Following delays related to registry updates and the identification of households exiting the program, the rollout of economic inclusion measures finally began. These measures had reached approximately 3,300 exiting beneficiaries, of whom 95% were women—underscoring a continued emphasis on empowering women through targeted support.

### BUILDING BLOCK 1: Institutional arrangements and partnerships

**In FY25, the SASPP program continued to support the strengthening of the national ASP system. Key milestones included the finalization of the updated National Social Protection Strategy.** The team also played a key role in supporting the development of the Taazour 2025–2029 pluriannual plan and the 2025–2029 Food Security Commissariat (Commissariat à la Sécurité Alimentaire) strategy. Meanwhile, the government’s coordination role through the national shock response framework (Dispositif National de Prévention et de Réponse aux Crises Alimentaires et Nutritionnelles – DCAN) is gradually reaching full operational capacity, despite some leadership turnover. Activities supported by the World Bank included finalizing standard operating procedures, coordinating and evaluating the 2024 lean season response, and preparing the 2025 national response plan. These efforts benefited from strong collaboration with WFP, in line with the two institutions’ joint action plan. In parallel, collaboration between the World Bank and UNHCR deepened in response to the rising number of Malian refugees, many of whom now live outside the Mbera camp. A joint effort involving WFP and the social registry

resulted in a comprehensive refugee census, with further refinement underway to ensure effective registration of the most vulnerable. The World Bank and WFP are also working closely with UNHCR to facilitate refugee integration into national social protection and economic inclusion programs. In February 2025, the World Bank, WFP, and UNICEF hosted the second ASP Stress Test in Nouakchott, building on the first held in 2021. The workshop gathered representatives from key Mauritanian government institutions engaged in ASP and provided practical recommendations for improvement.

**In FY26, the SASPP program will continue to support government leadership and coordination.** With the updated SNPS nearing adoption, the program—alongside UNICEF, WFP, and other partners—will support a series of national Social Protection meetings, assist in the strategy’s dissemination, and provide guidance for its initial implementation. The partnership with UNHCR will remain central to efforts to integrate refugees—both within and beyond the Mbera camp—into social protection and economic inclusion initiatives. Support to the DCAN will continue, with a focus on accelerating key milestones for the 2025 response coordination. This includes releasing a comprehensive capitalization report and a provisional 2026 response plan before year-end. Achieving these goals will require close collaboration with partners and a sustained focus on data quality and reliability.

### BUILDING BLOCK 2: Programs and delivery systems

**In FY25, the SASPP program focused on advancing economic inclusion, refining Tekavoul’s entry and exit strategies, and modernizing delivery systems to improve program impact and efficiency.** A major area of support was the implementation of economic inclusion packages for 3,300 households exiting Tekavoul. In parallel, the team worked with the government to define a longer-term vision for expanding economic inclusion to other safety net beneficiaries. This included tailoring packages to the needs of refugees and host communities, integrating climate adaptation components, and preparing for the delivery of economic inclusion to 5,000 households in Hodh El Chargui. Coordination efforts explored synergies between Tekavoul and Al Baraka – a government-led youth employment program – and with the World Bank-financed Youth Employability Project (P162916). A diagnosis of

social protection information systems (including the social registry, Tekavoul, Elmaouna, and the payment platform) was conducted to improve interoperability, efficiency, and transparency. Initial findings highlighted the need for substantial reforms to the government programs MIS and upgrades to the social registry MIS.

**Technical assistance also contributed to revising Tekavoul’s entry/exit strategy, resulting in a strategic note that was incorporated into Taazour’s 2025–2029 pluriannual plan.** Additional support focused on expanding Tekavoul in urban areas, notably Nouakchott, through the pilot of digital payments and customized social promotion activities for urban contexts. The team also conducted an assessment of Tekavoul delivery systems using the SPARKS methodology, identifying key strengths and weaknesses

and offering concrete recommendations for improvement. Technical assistance also supported the 2024 shock-response through three channels: Tekavoul Choc (28,153 households), Elmaouna (10,363 households), and support to 5,000 flood-affected households.

**Finally, with the support of the Gender Innovation Lab, the team continued to support the implementation of the family dialog intervention—aimed at improving household well-being, reducing gender-based violence, and fostering greater intra-household cooperation.** This intervention includes couples-based training and community edutainment sessions, and an initial evaluation after completion reveals promising gains in women’s decision-making power, attitudes toward gender equality, men’s participation in household tasks, and women’s engagement in economic activities. While

## BOX 13 OPTIONS FOR TEKAVOUL’S ENTRY EXIT STRATEGY

Despite being designed with a five-year cycle and planned entry and exit mechanisms, Mauritania’s national safety net program, Tekavoul, has become static. Some households have received support for up to nine years without exiting the program, while newly poor families identified in the updated Social Registry remain excluded. The Sahel Adaptive Social Protection Program (SASPP) supported the government in diagnosing the issue and proposing a path forward. The team is now actively assisting in the implementation of reforms.

Tekavoul’s original design anticipated that, after five years, updated Social Registry data would guide the identification of beneficiaries whose Proxy Means Test (PMT) scores no longer ranked among the poorest. These households would then graduate from the program with economic inclusion support, allowing poorer families to enter. However, this dynamic targeting mechanism was never operationalized due to delays in updating the Social Registry, limited interoperability across systems, and insufficient financing for economic inclusion programs. Following the latest registry update, only 26.6 percent of the 90,596 Tekavoul households outside Nouakchott remain eligible—indicating that 73.4 percent should exit to make space for newly identified poor households.

SASPP’s technical support followed a four-phase approach addressing both technical and institutional challenges. The process began with a clear problem definition, data analysis, and the establishment of reform objectives. The team facilitated access to updated Social Registry data, which quantified the scope of the issue. Drawing on international experience—including Brazil’s *Bolsa Família* and Jamaica’s *PATH* program—SASPP conducted a comparative review to inform the design of a revised entry/exit strategy for *Tekavoul*. This analysis led to the development of three reform scenarios, ranging from immediate exits without support to phased graduations accompanied by transitional assistance.

The reform process surfaced lessons with broader relevance beyond Mauritania. These include the necessity of regularly updated and interoperable systems, the complexities of linking program exits to economic inclusion measures, and the importance of sustained political engagement and effective communication with beneficiaries. The team is currently preparing a policy and technical note to share these insights with other countries considering similar reforms.

qualitative findings are informing ongoing discussions around a future scale-up, long-term follow-up data will become available later in 2025. Further progress was made on the prevention of gender-based violence, through collaboration with *Medicos del Mundo* and the Youth Employability Project, resulting in the design and pilot of a GRM that is responsive to gender-based violence. Dedicated focal points were also appointed in both projects and received specialized training on gender-based violence to ensure appropriate reporting and referral pathways.

**In FY26, SASPP support will focus on scaling up recent gains and consolidating institutional reforms, with an emphasis on economic inclusion, payment modernization, gender-sensitive programming, and improved targeting.**

A key priority will be the rollout of the refined economic inclusion framework, to 2,500 host community households and 2,500 refugee households in Hodh El Chargui, and the implementation of new entry and exit protocols for the Tekavoul program. These updates will support the large-scale transition of beneficiaries planned for September 2025, following the comprehensive update of the beneficiary database. Technical assistance will ensure the process is efficient, inclusive, and aligned with updated program goals. In parallel, the team will continue to support the economic inclusion expansion strategy, including the integration of new climate adaptation components. Efforts will also focus on modernizing digital payments, as outlined in the recently approved Taazour 2025–2029 Pluriannual Plan. This includes drafting a roadmap for digital payment expansion, enabling account-based payments, and expanding the number of financial service providers to increase access and competition. The family dialog intervention will enter a new phase of scale-up, reaching additional regions. In tandem, the team will support the development of a modular social promotion curriculum and interactive tools to enhance the effectiveness of Tekavoul’s accompanying measures. Further, the program will continue to refine and mainstream the gender-based violence-responsive GRM, building on lessons from the pilot phase. In the area of targeting, SASPP will work closely with the social registry and response partners to optimize targeting criteria for the lean season, using updated registry data. SASPP will also directly support the 2025 lean season response through Tekavoul Choc (10,500 households) and Elmaouna (4,500 households). In parallel, a deeper assessment of digital social protection systems will be conducted to define a

roadmap for MIS reforms, outlining both short-term and medium-term enhancements for the registry and program management systems. Strengthening the interoperability between systems—spanning beneficiary identification, payment processing, and program management—will be crucial for improving efficiency, reliability, and transparency in social protection delivery.

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

**In FY25, the SASPP team supported the government in the second year of operations for the FNRCAN, focusing on improving fund governance and delivery.**

Building on the initial momentum from FY24—when FNRCAN became operational with resources from AFD and the government—the fund continued to play a central role in channeling resources to shock-responsive programs. While FNRCAN received substantial government contributions in FY25, including allocations supported by the IMF program, procedural bottlenecks delayed actual disbursements. To help address these challenges, the World Bank, in close collaboration with WFP and AFD, supported the update of the operational manual, which improves fund efficiency and flow. Also, an audit of the 2023 response identified key issues to address—particularly in the information management system, including interoperability gaps with the payment system and the Elmaouna program. Also, to enhance coherence and alignment across financing tools, efforts were made to better integrate FNRCAN with other shock-response financing mechanisms. At the same time, the government initiated the development of a comprehensive risk financing strategy for FNRCAN to improve resource mobilization and long-term financial sustainability. Finally, advocacy and communication efforts continued to ensure sustained contributions from government and development partners, reinforcing FNRCAN’s role as a critical instrument for managing food and nutritional crises.

**In FY26, the focus will shift toward finalizing and operationalizing the risk financing strategy, solidifying FNRCAN’s role as a cornerstone of ex-ante shock financing.**

Resources from the second additional financing will support the 2025 lean season response, further reinforcing FNRCAN’s capacity to channel timely and predictable funding to crisis-affected populations. The SASPP team will work closely with the AFD expert and the Food Security Commissariat to strengthen the fund’s

governance and operational effectiveness. As the managing entity, the Food Security Commissariat will play a central role in streamlining fund procedures, improving coordination with government and development partners, and enhancing financial oversight. Advocacy efforts will also intensify to secure sustainable financing for the Food Security Monitoring Survey through FNRCAN. This step is critical for institutionalizing data-driven EWSs as part of Mauritania's national crisis response architecture. More broadly, efforts will continue to better integrate FNRCAN within Mauritania's emerging risk financing framework, positioning the fund as both a rapid-response instrument and a strategic tool for resilience-building. By the end of FY26, FNRCAN is expected to operate with greater predictability, transparency, and financial sustainability, strengthening a key ASP foundation.

#### **BUILDING BLOCK 4: Data and Information**

##### **In FY25, SASPP supported the finalization of comprehensive updates to the social registry and enhancements in EWSs.**

The government completed the update and expansion of the social registry in February 2025, which now includes data for the entire population, along with detailed information on the 40% poorest households nationwide. Technical assistance focused on designing a strategy for continuous updates, allowing households—whether newly vulnerable or newly arrived—to update their information continuously. This is critical for accurate and timely targeting of social protection programs. The team contributed to drafting a strategic note and participated in a diagnostic mission that laid the groundwork for a pilot to operationalize this continuous update system. In parallel, the SASPP team supported enhancements to targeting methodologies, conducting an impact evaluation of the social registry's targeting approach. Additionally, the team supported the implementation of recommendations from a data protection audit and collaborated with the social registry and UNHCR to explore targeting options for refugees and host communities within the Tekavoul program.

**SASPP support to the EWS focused on deploying newly developed processes and tools to enhance the efficiency and timeliness of shock responses.** In particular, the project supported the government in enhancing data quality at the earliest stages of the response cycle, notably by conducting Food Security Monitoring Survey in May/June 2025 to ensure that Food Insecurity Predictive Model (FIFI) is appropriately calibrated using data collected before the lean season. Additionally, the team disseminated findings from a study on food insecurity drivers in urban areas and continued analytical work to propose strategies to address urban food insecurity. This will include more targeted and frequent food consumption surveys.

##### **In FY26, the focus will be on advancing dynamic updates to the social registry, enhancing interoperability across social protection systems, and launching reforms to the information systems supporting social protection programs.**

A key priority will be implementing and monitoring the pilot for continuous data updates, with the goal of expanding this mechanism nationwide. The impact evaluation data from the social registry's targeting methodology will be thoroughly analyzed, and the results will be disseminated to inform the design of future update mechanisms. Ensuring that the social registry remains robust, interoperable, and dynamically maintained will be a top priority throughout the year.

##### **On the EWS, support will continue for the development of a web interface for the FIFI model, with plans to integrate it more effectively into the *Cadre Harmonisé* analysis.**

Additionally, the team will work on creating a user-friendly interface for the EWS, facilitating the integration of the EWS application into the food security observatory's central server to improve data accessibility and usability for policymakers. The team will also sustain technical assistance for the food security observatory, including recalibrating the FIFI model using Food Security Monitoring Survey data collected in May/June 2025 and ensuring it is integrated into the *Cadre Harmonisé*.

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

Component	FY25 activities and outputs	FY26 planned activities and outputs
<b>Institutional arrangements and partnerships</b>	Supported the update of the National Social Protection Strategy.	
	Supported the development of the Taazour pluriannual plan and the strategy of the Food Security Commissariat.	
	Supported DCAN in finalizing standard operating procedures, coordinating and evaluating the 2024 lean season response, and preparing and coordinating the 2025 national response plan.	Support DCAN in coordinating and evaluating the 2025 lean season response and preparing and coordinating the 2026 national response plan.
	Implemented joint action plan with WFP.	Implement joint action plan with WFP.
	Coordinated with UNHCR on targeting refugees and integration into social protection programs.	Continue coordination with UNHCR.
	Conducted the ASP Stress Test and disseminated the report.	
	<b>Programs and delivery systems</b>	Provided technical assistance for the implementation of Tekavoul's economic inclusion package with households exiting the program. Proposed a strategy to boost the climate adaptation impacts.
Provided technical assistance to propose options for the entry/exit strategy of the Tekavoul program.		Provide technical assistance for the implementation of an entry/exit strategy for the Tekavoul program
Supported the expansion of Tekavoul in Nouakchott and improvements to the payment system by piloting digital payments in Nouakchott and drawing lessons learned.		Continue to support the modernization of digital payments by supporting the expansion to account-based payments for the Tekavoul program which will enable multiple financial service providers.
Continued to support the implementation of the Family Dialog pilot, the dissemination of the impact evaluation, and supported the development of a scale up strategy.		Support the scale up of the Family Dialog to new regions.
		Conduct an assessment of digital SP systems and define the key features of the new MIS to be developed. Support the short-term and medium-term reforms to the registry and programs' MIS.
<b>Finance</b>		Continued support to the operationalization of the FNRCAN for the second year of implementation.
	Supported the finalization of the updated operational manual for FNRCAN.	Collaboration with the AFD to strengthen the capacity of the Food Security Commissariat to manage the FNRCAN
	Launched the development of a risk financing strategy for the FNRCAN.	Contribute to the positioning of FNRCAN in the risk financing framework.

**TABLE 10** *Continued*

Component	FY25 activities and outputs	FY26 planned activities and outputs
<b>Data and information</b>	<p>Supported the finalization of the registry update.</p> <p>Supported the development of the strategy for continuous updates, participated in a diagnostic mission, and designed a pilot.</p> <p>Supported the implementation of the recommendations from the data protection audit.</p> <p>Worked closely with the UNHCR and the Social registry to propose options to target refugees and host communities for Tekavoul.</p>	<p>Support the implementation and monitoring of the pilot and the design of the scale up strategy for the continuous data update mechanism at national level.</p> <p>Analyze the data from the social registry targeting methodology impact evaluation and disseminate the results.</p>
	<p>Ensured that FIFI is appropriately calibrated by collecting Food Security Monitoring Survey data at the beginning of the lean season.</p>	<p>Support the development of a web interface for FIFI, recalibrate the model using new Food Security Monitoring Survey data and provide continued technical assistance to the government to run FIFI and use it as an input into the <i>Cadre Harmonisé</i>.</p>
	<p>Disseminated the study on drivers and variations of food insecurity in urban areas. Continued the analysis to propose strategies to address food insecurity in urban areas, including more targeted and frequent food consumption surveys.</p>	

# NIGER



## 5.5 NIGER

### **ASP World Bank Engagement in Niger**

**SASPP support in Niger has been embedded in the Niger Adaptive Safety Net Project 2 (P166602, ASP2) since 2019, which closed at the end of FY25.** The project aimed to improve the capacity of the adaptive safety net system in Niger to respond to shocks and increase access of poor and vulnerable households to the safety net system and strengthen the adaptive delivery system. The operation supported several programs: the flagship income support for resilience program, productive inclusion programs targeting poor women, youth, refugees and host communities, shock response programs, and a cash for work program aimed at strengthening the resilience of households to climatic shocks. In 2021, the project received an additional financing in the amount of US\$130 million, of which US\$30 million was from SASPP, to support further strengthening of the adaptive delivery system, and to provide support to those affected by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. In July 2023, the activation of the World Bank's Operational Policy 7.30 following the coup d'état resulted in the suspension of project disbursements for a period of 10 months and limited the implementation of project activities to maintenance of the project implementation unit operations. Following that period, activities remained limited during a period of institutional reforms. The authorities requested early closure of the project in June 2025 with a view to preparing a follow-up operation focused on youth employment (see below). Undisbursed balances in the amount of around \$27 million were returned to SASPP for new programming.

**Beyond the project, SASPP-supported technical assistance and capacity-building has ensured just-in-time support to the government in the development and strengthening of the adaptive delivery system and adaptive interventions.** This has included support in: i) improving the capacity to

plan, monitor, and coordinate adaptive safety net programs; ii) developing and adapting the tools for delivery of adaptive safety net programs based on lessons learned from impact evaluations; iii) improving the data and information systems. During the period of suspension of disbursements in 2023 and the recent period of institutional reforms, support has been sustained at the technical level, with SASPP engaging with technical counterparts on the national social protection policy, the analysis of the pilot shock-response program, and the development of a SWIFT targeting methodology (see details below).

**In parallel, the ASP agenda was also further advanced through two complementary World Bank projects.** First, the ongoing West Africa Unique Identification for Regional Integration and Inclusion Project (P169594) supports the ASP agenda by increasing access to government-recognized proof of identification. This project, implemented over 2020 – 2026, seeks to provide all individuals residing in the national territory with a unique identifier. This identifier is intended to facilitate access to essential services, including enrollment in the country's unified social registry. Second, during the period of 2018-2023, the Youth Employment and Productive Inclusion Project (P163157) supported the economic inclusion of poor and vulnerable youth across Niger. The program featured youth savings and credit groups based on the village savings and loans associations methodology and delivered training in life skills and micro-entrepreneurship, along with information on local economic and employment opportunities. Building on this experience, the Government has requested that the World Bank adopt a stronger focus on youth-centered activities in the forthcoming social protection project in Niger. Changes in ASP context during FY25

**During FY25, the government has initiated a realignment of development support in the social protection sector with an emphasis on one of the country's key priorities—youth empowerment.** The direction for possible new

World Bank operational support include enhancing labor market-relevant skills, expanding employment opportunities for disadvantaged youth, and further strengthening the government-led adaptive safety net and employment delivery systems. A new project has been incorporated into the World Bank Group Country Partnership Framework. In parallel, to ensure uninterrupted implementation of multi-annual monetary transfers, human capital development, and the trigger-based early drought response mechanism supported under ASP2, the Government has established a dedicated committee tasked with preparing a new operation supported by WFP. It brings together representatives from all relevant government institutions involved in social protection, as well as development partners, including the World Bank.

### **Key ASP developments and SASPP activities**

**Overall, despite the limited project-supported activities, SASPP has continued to deploy technical support and carry out analytical work in FY25.** Overall, in collaboration with WFP and UNICEF, the team has provided support to the Ministry of Public Affairs, Employment, and Jobs in the revision of the National Social Protection Policy. Progress continued on initiatives like the development and testing of the SWIFT methodology, the drought response triggers, and impact evaluation of the drought response pilot (see details below).

### **Detailed SASPP activities**

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

**There were limited recipient-executed activities in FY25 as the ASP2 operation was closed.** Technical discussions on directions for a follow-up operation focused on youth employment are under way.

#### **BUILDING BLOCK 1: Institutional arrangements and partnerships**

**In FY25, the team supported the revision process for the National Social Protection Policy (Politique Nationale de Protection Sociale – PNPS).** The World Bank worked alongside WFP and UNICEF to support the development of a revised timeline for updating the country’s adaptive social protection policy originally adopted in 2011. A detailed roadmap for its evaluation and revision has been established and adopted,

and implementation is underway. This work encompasses an assessment of the institutional and legislative framework, a review of existing social protection programs—including their design, coverage, delivery systems, and financing—and the development of an adaptive social protection system capable of building resilience and responding effectively to crises. In November 2024, the team also worked with WFP to organize a study tour of Ministers from Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger, to learn from Pakistan’s experience with a national safety net program and social registries, which provided an opportunity for increased commitment to this agenda. Additionally, the team supported the implementation of the ASP Stress Test in May 2025, bringing together government representatives and key ASP partners to jointly take stock of the situation and identify priorities.

**In FY26, the team will support the government in implementing** the roadmap toward the development of a new PNPS, advocating for the inclusion of ASP principles and instruments in the new strategy.

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

**In FY25, SASPP supported a series of activities which are critical to strengthen ASP programs and delivery systems.** The team supported the preparation of a pilot for introducing digital payments in urban areas, which is ready for deployment. Progress was also made in enhancing the GRM, including the introduction of a toll-free hotline to complement the existing village-based complaints committees. An action plan was developed to strengthen the MIS to support social program implementation and facilitate interoperability, coordination, and communication. Additionally, work continued on identifying and evaluating drought response triggers, alongside preliminary efforts to assess flood response mechanisms. The team provided just-in-time support to reinforce Niger’s satellite-based early drought response program. This included helping the government with satellite trigger calculations for the rapid drought response pilot. Although the 2024 rainy season was generally favorable, severe drought triggers were surpassed in three communes and moderate triggers in 23, raising concerns over potential millet harvest losses. While SASPP and the World Bank did not finance emergency drought transfers, the analytical findings informed planning of activities supported by WFP and UNICEF.

## BOX 14 DROUGHT RESPONSE TRIGGERS

Niger, where over 80% of the population relies on rainfed agriculture, faces frequent droughts that severely undermine food security—forcing households to skip meals, withdraw children from school, or sell assets during crises. In November 2021, the government launched the region’s first trigger-based adaptive social protection drought response pilot program under its Wadata Talaka safety net. The pilot relies on the use of FAO’s satellite-based Water Requirement Satisfaction Index (WRSI) to detect droughts early and trigger emergency cash assistance to affected communities.

When the WRSI falls 10 percent below its long-term median in an observed area, the program provides transfers to the poorest 22 percent of households in that area. The coverage increases to 44 percent of households if the WRSI drops by 25 percent or more. The beneficiary households receive monthly transfers in the amount of about USD 27 per month (15,000 FCFA) for 12 months post-harvest. This early action model enables a faster response and helps households smooth consumption and avoid negative coping strategies.

The satellite triggers were activated in October 2021 and 2022, unlocking support for more than 20,000 households, around 4 months earlier than traditional humanitarian response efforts. In 2023 and 2024, the results from the trigger analysis were also used to inform early response efforts by WFP and UNICEF.

The impact of the 2021/2022 response was evaluated via a randomized controlled trial. Comparing the impacts of the early 12 months intervention to those of an early 4 months intervention and those of a traditional later intervention, the study found significant benefits in terms of food security and mental well-being when providing benefits as early as possible (the early 4 months intervention).<sup>8</sup>

<sup>8</sup> Pople, A. et al, “The Earlier the Better? Cash Transfers for Drought Response in Niger”, 2025

**In FY26, the team will continue to support the integration of lessons learned from the early drought response pilot to enhance future response effectiveness.** Efforts will focus on strengthening government capacity to monitor selected drought triggers and execute timely responses, as well as improving coordination among stakeholders involved in shock response. The design of a comprehensive flood response program will also be initiated. Moreover, the team will maintain support for advancing the MIS development, implementing the digital payments pilot, and supporting the GRM. Technical assistance will also be directed toward supporting the design of interventions (including cash-for-work and economic inclusion interventions) and of labor market monitoring and intermediation systems that are likely to be supported by the new project.

### BUILDING BLOCK 3: Finance

**During FY25, no activities were carried out under this building block,** as the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs—designated to play a key role in this area—was fully engaged in managing a severe flood emergency. Work on the financing component is expected to resume in FY26.

### BUILDING BLOCK 4: Data and information

**In FY25, the team continued to provide technical assistance to support the development of the social registry.** The SWIFT methodology for targeting social programs was finalized and a SWIFT pilot successfully completed. The approach was subsequently applied in the latest round of social registry data collection. On the EWS front, in collaboration with the regional Shock-Responsive Delivery Systems thematic pillar,

the team contributed to an impact evaluation assessing the effectiveness of early monetary transfer interventions compared to traditional drought response measures (see Pillar B, component 4).

**In FY26, technical assistance is expected to sustain a focus on supporting the social registry.** This would entail both supporting its expansion and enhancing its interoperability with other databases and systems, including the newly established WURI platform.

**TABLE 11** Summary activities and outputs for SASPP engagement in Niger

Component	FY25 activities and outputs	FY26 planned activities and outputs
<b>Institutional arrangements and partnerships</b>	In coordination with the WFP and UNICEF, supported the development of a timeline for the revision of the national social protection policy.	In coordination with WFP and UNICEF, continue to support the government in the elaboration of the new social protection policy.
	Conducted the ASP Stress Test with UNICEF and WFP.	
<b>Programs and delivery systems</b>	Conducted a comprehensive evaluation and review of the early drought response pilot program, including a review of the trigger and operational modalities.	Support integration of the lessons learned from the implementation of the pilot and impact evaluation of early drought response to maximize the effectiveness of the response.
		Strengthen the design of the interventions (cash for work, productive inclusion) and of labor market monitoring systems.
	Developed an action plan to strengthen the MIS to support social program implementation and facilitate interoperability, coordination, and communication.	Support the government in continued development of the MIS and GRM.
	Prepared the digital payment pilot in urban areas	Implement and evaluate the digital payment pilot.
<b>Finance</b>	N/A	Resume engagement with Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs on the financing pillar.
<b>Data and information</b>	Developed, piloted and evaluated the SWIFT methodology.	Support to inform the registry’s expansion and its connections with other databases and systems, including WURI.
	Continued technical assistance to the government in the development of the RSU.	

# SENEGAL

## 5.6 SENEGAL

### **ASP World Bank Engagement in Senegal**

**ASP activities in Senegal are implemented 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 a total of US \$177.4 million in IDA financing and US\$ 41.1 million from the SASAPP MDTF. The PAPSA, was 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 West Africa. This advancement has been facilitated by years of technical assistance and innovation supported by the SASPP. Currently, the government fully funds the regular safety net program through its own budget, while IDA funds are mostly allocated to further strengthening the system.

**The ASP agenda also benefits from technical engagement with partners, as well as policy support through development policy operations and IMF engagement.**

The team collaborates closely with the Bank's Finance, Competitiveness, and Innovation Global Practice and 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.

### **Changes in ASP context during FY25**

**In FY25, Senegal has undergone significant political, economic and institutional changes, influencing the implementation of social protection policies.** In March 2024, Bassirou Diomaye Faye was elected president, replacing Macky Sall, who had governed Senegal since 2012 and launched the national safety net program. The new administration emphasizes “rupture” from the past, with a focus on economic sovereignty, efficient stewardship of public resources, and good governance. Its mandate was bolstered by a parliamentary majority in the November 2024 legislative elections, which came after a period of political tension and growing economic challenges, such as inflation and a debt crisis. The findings of the government audit report, covering 2019 to 2024, revealed budgetary shortcomings and financial challenges. The average public deficit has been revised to 12.3 percent of GDP on average between 2019 and 2023, five percentage points more than official figures reported by the previous government. The revised figure for public debt in 2023 is 99.67 percent of GDP in 2023, about 20 percentage points higher than previously reported for that year. The government is firmly committed to building fiscal reserves and consolidating public finances to put public debt on a declining path. It intends to do so by accelerating revenue collection, improving debt management and the efficiency, transparency, and fiscal sustainability of public expenditure, and putting ceilings on the disbursement of externally funded projects.

**Following the presidential election, the Ministry of Community Development, National Solidarity and Social and Territorial Equity, responsible for social protection, was merged with the Ministry for Women, Family, and Child Protection to form the Ministry of Family and Solidarity (MFS).** The new ministry retains the functions of both former ministries. The implementing agencies were preserved and incorporated into the MFS, ensuring continuity despite the

administrative change. In particular, the *Délégation Générale à La Protection Sociale et à La Solidarité Nationale* (General Delegation for Social Protection and National Solidarity, DGPSN) and the National Solidarity Fund (FSN), as the implementing agencies of the PAPSA, have been retained and continue to administer the programs financed by the project. However, despite efforts to maintain institutional continuity and prioritize the social protection sector, challenges remain in terms of coordination, funding, and policy alignment.

### **Key ASP developments and SASPP activities**

**The vision for Senegal ASP is to build a resilient, inclusive, and efficient social protection system capable of covering most needs and that can be scaled up and down efficiently in response to changing economic, social, and environmental conditions.** To achieve this, it is essential to enhance the coordination capacity of the social protection system, fortify its foundational delivery mechanisms by leveraging data and technology, increasing the efficacy and coverage of resilience-building programs, and improving the system's ability to anticipate risks and respond to shocks in a coordinated manner, with a strong focus on climate-related shocks.

**In FY25, significant progress was achieved towards key objectives despite financial constraints that limited the speed and scale of implementation.** As of June 2025, country budgetary difficulties have resulted in limited disbursements for the SASPP supported project, causing some activities to be temporarily halted and others to progress more slowly. Nevertheless, the project managed to advance both programmatic improvements and the strengthening of cross-cutting social protection tools, such as the social registry (*Registre National Unifié – RNU*) and the payment system. The expansion and updating of the RNU marked a critical step toward enhancing targeting efficiency, although budgetary limitations delayed the data collection process. Technical assistance was provided to the DGPSN and the FSN to support the digitization of payments, including for the National Safety Net Program (*Programme National de Bourses de Sécurité Familiale – PNBSF*). A diagnostic report on digitization of social protection payments in Senegal was conducted at the request of the DGPSN and shared to support digitization of social transfers. Significant progress in the revision of the PNBSF accompanying measures has been made, aiming to increase their impact on human capital development and the

economic independence of beneficiaries. Adjustments were made to better address resilience to climate and economic shocks. Similarly, progress has been made in improving the quality of economic inclusion programs and better adapting them to the varied needs of beneficiaries. Modifications were made to the Yokk Koom Koom program to facilitate the implementation of training sessions and to increase the effectiveness of coaching sessions

**FY26 will be a pivotal year for the sustainability of the social protection system.** The primary challenge for the Senegalese government will be to reconcile its ambition to establish a robust and comprehensive social protection system able to reduce poverty and inequalities while simultaneously managing national debt and enhancing the fiscal situation. This will necessarily involve improving the governance of the sector, increasing coordination and streamlining the implementation capacities of the social protection system. The team will support the government of Senegal through these reforms, with a focus on optimizing key cross-cutting tools, including continuous RNU updates, improved digital payment systems, and data pooling through social registry interoperability. The team will also support the recertification process of the PNBSF which will enable the expansion of the coverage to new beneficiaries with no fiscal impact and the elaboration of a strategy for improving decentralized social protection service delivery.

### **Detailed SASPP activities**

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

**In FY25, the team actively leveraged IDA-financed projects to provide relief to households impacted by shocks, including food insecurity and flooding.** Under the agricultural resilience program, 12,869 households were enrolled across the regions of Thiès, Fatick, and Diourbel. In September and October 2024, 10,849 households, representing 84 percent of beneficiaries, received a transfer of 200,000 FCFA to purchase agricultural inputs. Poor agricultural farmers were selected and also participated in coaching sessions delivered by decentralized agents from the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Sovereignty. However, due to budgetary constraints, households were able to attend only one of the three planned collective coaching sessions. In parallel, under the food insecurity response program, 12,709 households were enrolled, with 9,670

households (76 percent) successfully receiving a 120,000 FCFA transfer to meet immediate consumption needs. Households that did not receive the transfer—due to issues such as undelivered codes, deleted messages, or changes in phone numbers—were unable to benefit from a second payment attempt because of the project’s budget freeze starting in October 2024. At the start of the rainy season, 12,875 flood-affected households were identified across 13 regions. However, only 1,952 households received the planned assistance, while payments to the remaining 10,923 households remain outstanding due to financial constraints.

### **BUILDING BLOCK 1: Institutional arrangements and partnerships**

**In FY25, the team engaged extensively with the new ministry responsible for social protection to discuss their vision, as well as the challenges and opportunities facing the sector, and to navigate the emergence of various new stakeholders within the Ministry of Family and Solidarity (MFS) and beyond.** Although the sector’s overall structure remained consistent, many newly appointed officials required briefing on the project and its associated programs. These discussions helped clarify the government’s needs, expectations, and vision for social protection. A close dialogue was also maintained with the Agence Nationale de la Statistique et de la Démographie (Statistics Office, ANSD) and the Ministry of Economy, to which ANSD reports, as ANSD was responsible for implementing the survey to expand the coverage of the Unified Social Registry (RNU). Discussions with the Ministry of Economy extended beyond the RNU to emphasize the broader role of social protection in strengthening human capital in Senegal. In parallel, the team engaged the Ministry of Finance to stress the importance of the sector and the need to lift the budgetary cap on PAPSA, which has been limiting project implementation. Furthermore, the ASP Stress Test was conducted in December 2024 in Dakar to assess the system’s readiness to respond to shocks. The exercise highlighted key strengths, such as the availability of data and effective coordination mechanisms, while also identifying capacity gaps that require targeted investment. The team also maintained dialogue with the decentralized agents of the Ministry of Agriculture to help overcome collaboration challenges encountered during the implementation of the agricultural resilience program.

**In FY26, the team will continue the dialogue with the new authorities,** including the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Economy, and the MFS, to raise awareness about ASP principles, ASP programs and their impact, and the importance of strengthening sector coordination. The team will also keep engaging on the need to improve sector governance to maximize the programs’ impact and facilitate smoother implementation.

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

**In FY25, activities under this building block focused on the Yokk Koom Koom, the Agricultural Program, and the PNBSF.** Preparatory activities for the Yokk Koom Koom program began in 2024, with nearly 40,000 participants registered nationwide, and the first activities started in March 2025. Implementing agents received training in communication, savings groups facilitation, coaching, and digital monitoring tools. Program materials, including videos and training content, were adapted for urban and rural contexts, translated into six local languages, and included psychosocial skills and climate change awareness. Technical sheets on income diversification were also developed. A report on the short- and medium-term impact evaluation of Yokk Koom Koom has been finalized and is being disseminated. In addition, decentralized staff of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock were trained to deliver improved, standardized awareness-raising sessions on best agricultural practices within the Agricultural Resilience Program. The accompanying measures of the PNBSF were revised through a participatory process, finalizing a new curriculum and communication tools. Training materials for year 1 of the five-year cycle were developed to support field delivery. On payments, SASPP’s policy dialogue led DGPSN to rethink the PNBSF payment process, initiating discussions to revise its agreement with La Poste and pilot digital payments, including mobile money. Finally, the team supported DGPSN in strengthening the GRM by updating the MIS, revising tools and manuals, and improving monitoring. The Yokk Koom Koom has started applying these improvements with the new cohort. FSN is also developing its own GRM, with a pilot phase scheduled for 2025.

**In FY26, the focus will be on nationwide implementation of the newly developed tools across programs.** The Yokk Koom Koom program will enroll a new cohort of 40,000 beneficiaries, offering an enhanced service package with a stronger emphasis on climate resilience. The revised PNBSF

## BOX 15 STRENGTHENING THE DIGITALIZATION OF SOCIAL TRANSFERS

Last fiscal year, Senegal has embarked on a journey to strengthen the digitalization of social transfers. Currently, these payments are either paid in cash or semi-digitized, where beneficiaries receive a code via SMS to withdraw funds using their identity documents at mobile money service providers. This system, however, presents several challenges, including long wait times at withdrawal points in areas with sparse agent networks, lack of fund availability, and fraudulent practices by some agents who demand undue fees to facilitate access to funds. Transitioning direct payments into mobile money accounts could address many of these issues, enhancing the beneficiary experience by saving time, offering greater flexibility in transfer usage, and reducing theft risks. Digital payments also empower women by providing them with greater autonomy and control over their resources. Furthermore, financial inclusion through mobile money accounts opens doors to a range of financial services such as savings, credit, and insurance, which can bolster economic resilience.

The environment in Senegal is conducive to this transition, with nearly universal mobile phone ownership, good network coverage, high mobile money account ownership, and a preference for digital payments among beneficiaries. However, it is crucial to cater to the specific needs of certain social protection beneficiaries who may not own mobile phones, lack mobile money accounts, use accounts not registered in their names, lack the necessary national identity cards for account identification, or live in remote areas without access to agent networks. In 2016, initial payments were made to Orange Money accounts, but concerns arose regarding reliability such as ensuring the correct beneficiary received the funds, the risk of losing money to operators due to inactive accounts, as well as beneficiaries' ability to manage digital payments.

Thanks to SASPP-financed technical assistance, a pilot for digital payments via mobile money accounts is planned within the food insecurity response program for this calendar year. Operational concerns were addressed through a layered approach, offering mobile money account payments only for beneficiaries with accounts identified in their names while code-based payments are retained for those with phones but no mobile money accounts and QR card payments for beneficiaries without phones. Additionally, an extensive risk mapping has been conducted, including mitigation measures such as cross-checking beneficiary names and mobile money accounts on the operator side. The operational manual has been revised to support this transition.

accompanying measures will be rolled out to a new cohort following the program's recertification and training materials for years 2 to 5 will be developed. A pilot to test e-wallet payments will be launched and evaluated, with the aim of gradually transitioning from cash to digital payments based on the pilot's results.

### BUILDING BLOCK 3: Finance

**In FY25, PAPSA faced significant budget constraints due to the country's high deficit.** This situation necessitated substantial advocacy efforts at the Ministry of Finance level to secure financing for the social protection sector. The dialogue also emphasized the importance of regularizing

payments for the PNBSF. In recent years, the government of Senegal has made notable progress in implementing climate and disaster risk finance tools and strategies. However, significant gaps remain, and until recently, the government lacked a national disaster risk finance strategy. In FY25, the project team supported the government in developing a national disaster risk finance strategy, which includes a focus on strengthening household financial resilience through the financing of the ASP system and the FSN (the agency responsible for implementing shock response programs). Technical assistance was provided to the FSN, which is exploring new risk transfer mechanisms in partnership with the Global Shield Facility for climate risk financing.

**In FY26, the team will continue providing technical assistance to the FSN to better facilitate dialogue with the Global Shield on the development of parametric insurance for flood risk.** Additionally, the team will maintain its support for the government's advocacy efforts to ensure funds are available to ensure regular payments are made to PNBSF beneficiaries.

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

**In FY25, a significant milestone was achieved with the update and expansion of the social registry to include all poor and vulnerable households, representing 47 percent of the country's total households.** In October 2024, the DGPSN, in collaboration with the ANSD, launched a comprehensive survey to collect socio-economic data from 1,015,434 poor and vulnerable households that had been pre-identified by communities. This extensive survey, conducted over two months, mobilized 2,272 enumerators nationwide. To maintain high quality standards, multiple supervision missions were carried out. Data was successfully collected from 954,574

households, covering 93 percent of the pre-identified households. However, the survey was suspended after two months due to government budgetary constraints. Data collection for the remaining 60,860 pre-identified households is expected to be completed at the beginning of FY26. A revised proxy means test formula was applied to effectively differentiate between poor and non-poor but vulnerable households within the expanded social registry. This data will play a crucial role in informing and implementing the recertification strategy for the PNBSF program. FY25 was marked by political and institutional changes that have not been conducive to further investment in the strengthening of the EWS.

**For FY26, the focus will be on several key priorities focusing on the RNU:** strengthening data protection, preparing a strategy for continuous updates, potentially piloting an on-demand data intake modality, modernizing the MIS, and enhancing the interoperability of the RNU with other national databases.



**TABLE 12** Summary activities and outputs for SASPP engagement in Senegal

Component	FY25 activities and outputs	FY26 planned activities and outputs
<b>Institutional arrangements and partnerships</b>	Engaged with the new Ministry in charge of social protection to communicate key challenges and opportunities for the strengthening of the sector.	Deepening the engagement with the MFS and other stakeholders to strengthen and align the SP strategy with the national economic and resilience priorities.
	The ASP stress test was conducted with key government stakeholders and partners with the objective to assess the progress made in the key dimensions of the ASP system.	
	Engaged with the Ministry in charge of agriculture and livestock to ensure coordination and joint implementation of the agricultural resilience program.	
<b>Programs and delivery systems</b>	Improved the Yokk Koom Koom package to address heterogeneity among beneficiaries and tailor the program to the needs of rural populations.	Implement the new Yokk Koom Koom training materials enhanced with integration of climate adaptation strategies.
	Trained decentralized staff of the Ministry of Agriculture for implementation of the accompanying measures.	
	Prepared a report with the short- and medium-term results of the impact evaluation of Yokk Koom Koom.	Disseminate short- and medium-term results of the impact evaluation of Yokk Koom Koom to a wide audience.
	Developed the tools to communicate accompanying measures of the PNBSF for year 1 of the five-year cycle.	Implement the new accompanying measures to the new cohort of PNBSF beneficiaries post recertification.  Develop the tools to communicate accompanying measures of the PNBSF for years 2 to 5.
	Support the operationalization of the diagnostic recommendations.	Support the operationalization of the diagnostic recommendations.
	Supported the strengthening of DGPSN GRM system.	
<b>Finance</b>	Supported the FSN in the discussion around financing mechanisms and financing opportunities such as the Global Shield financing facility.	Continue the support to the FSN in the discussion around financing mechanisms and financing opportunities such as the Global Shield financing facility.
<b>Data and information</b>	Provided technical assistance to ensure quality standards are met during the social registry data collection.	Provide technical assistance to develop a strategy for continuous update of the RNU
	Finalized and implemented the proxy means test formula to distinguish between poor and vulnerable households in the social registry.	Support the RNU in preparing a continuous updating strategy and a potential pilot for an on-demand data intake modality.
		Support the development of a data protection policy tailored to the needs of the ASP system.

# APPENDIXES

## APPENDIX 1 RESULTS FRAMEWORK

		END TARGETS				ACHIEVED					
		BASELINE		ANNUAL TARGETS							
				FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25
<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	26
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				2.83
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	5
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	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	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	194,127
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	1,264,082
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	638,771
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	8,606
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	51,636
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	7,745
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	25,818
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	11,472	
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	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	77,738
2.18	Cumulative number of technical and advisory outputs on productive inclusion funded by SASPP	0	6	4	6	6	6	4	10	13	20
2.19	% of payments that are digital (applies to all payments except where noted otherwise)	20%	36%	27%	29%	29%	36%	23%	33%	57%	64%
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%	42%
2.21	Number of countries with shock-response mechanism informed by results from impact evaluations	0	3	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	1
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%	92%
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	20
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	18
<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	1
3.2	Degree of readiness of financing to ensure timely response to disasters [scale of 1-5]	2.00	2.8				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	14
<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	3,304,937	4,244,739
4.2	Number of households in the registry, relative to the number of poor households	39%	76%	50%	55%	72%	76%	52%	57%	68%	79%
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%	99%
4.4	Cumulative number of technical and advisory outputs on adaptive social registries	7	22	11	14	20	22	11	15	23	28
4.5	Number of countries with second ASP stress test	0	6	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	6
4.6	Cumulative number of technical and advisory outputs on poverty and vulnerability	6	14	9	11	14	14	11	17	28	46
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				3.50

Notes: \* maximum achieved for annual targets

## APPENDIX 2 SASPP FUNDING

### TABLE 13

Investment Projects Supporting ASP and Contribution from SASPP, Phases 1 and 2, 2014–25

	Parent Project ID	Project Name	Approval and closing dates	Resource Allocation, US\$ millions			
				IDA	Government	SASPP	
						Phase 1	Phase 2
Burkina Faso	P124015*	Social Safety Net Project	Apr 2014-Jun 2024	50			
	P160371*	Additional Financing for Social Safety Net Project	Dec 2016-Jun 2024			6	
	P169252*	Scale-Up and Responding to the Needs of Refugees and Host Communities	May 2019-Jun 2024	100			10
	P173335*	Third Additional Financing for the Social Safety Net Project	Jul 2021-Jun 2024				30
Chad	P156479*	Safety Nets project	Sep 2016-Apr 2020			5	
	P164748	Refugees and Host Communities Support Project	Sep 2018-Dec 2025	60			
	P172255	Additional Financing to Refugees and Host Communities Support Project	Sep 2020-Dec 2025	75			6
	P502142	Chad Adaptive and Productive Safety Nets Project	Jun 2024-Jun 2029	100			20
Mali	P127328*	Safety Nets project (Jigisemejiri)	Apr 2013-Jun 2023	70			
	P157892*	Safety Nets Project (Jigisemejiri)	Sep 2016-Jun 2023			10	
	P165064*	Safety Nets Project (Jigisemejiri)	Jul 2018-Jun 2023	52			2.4
	P176693	Sub-Saharan Africa Women's Empowerment and Demographic Dividend Plus (SWEDD+)	Apr 2025-jun 2030	60			15
Mauritania	P150430*	Social Safety Net System Project	May 2015-Oct 2020	15	10	4	2.3
	P171125	Social Safety Net System Project 2	Mar 2020-Jun 2026	45	20		7
	P175778	Social Safety Net System Project 2 Additional Financing	Apr 2021-Jun 2026				13
	P181523	Social Safety Net System Project 2 Second Additional Financing	Apr 2024-Jun 2026	26			10
Niger	P155846*	Adaptive Safety Net Project	Apr 2016-Dec 2019	22.5		8.5	
	P166602*	Adaptive Safety Net Project 2	Jan 2019-Jun 2025	80			
	P173013*	Adaptive Safety Net Project 2 Additional Financing	Mar 2021-Jun 2025	100			30
Senegal	P133597*	Safety Net Project	Apr 2014-Mar 2024	40.5			
	P156160*	Safety Net Project Additional Financing	Aug 2016-Mar 2024			11.05	
	P162354*	Safety Net Project Second Additional Financing	Jan 2019-Mar 2024	57			
	P173344*	Safety Net Project Third Additional Financing	Jun 2021-Mar 2024	80			30
	P176544	Adaptive Safety Net	Jul 2022-May 2027	100			
<b>TOTAL:</b>				<b>1,133</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>44.55</b>	<b>175.7</b>

Notes: \* indicates the 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 14

Status of Donor Contributions, as of June 2025 (Phase 2)

Donor Name	Currency	Amount in Country Currency	Amount in US\$	Contributions received	Contributions pending
United Kingdom - Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office	GBP	17,100,000.00	\$22,159,356.00	\$14,897,156.00	\$7,262,200.00
	USD	2,577,291.83	\$2,577,291.83	\$2,577,291.83	
Wellspring Philanthropic Fund (WPF)*	USD	1,350,000.00	\$1,350,000.00	\$1,350,000.00	
France - Agence Francaise de Developpement	EUR	6,000,000.00	\$7,026,000.00	\$7,026,000.00	
Germany - Bundesministerium fur Wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit	EUR	130,000,000.00	\$153,444,150.01	\$153,444,150.01	
Denmark - Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs	DKK	230,000,000.00	\$34,676,350.02	\$34,676,350.02	
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$221,233,147.86</b>	<b>\$213,970,947.86</b>	<b>\$7,262,200.00</b>

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

### TABLE 15

Financial Status of Recipient-Executed Trust Funds, US\$ millions, as of June 2025 (Phase 2)\*

Grant Name	Grant Amount	Disbursement	Fund Balance
Burkina Faso: Scale-Up and Responding to the Needs of Refugees and Host Communities	10,000,000.00	9,998,070.17	1,929.23
Burkina Faso: Social Safety Net Project Third Additional Financing	30,000,000.00	21,999,144.45	8,000,855.55-
Chad: Adaptive and Productive Safety Nets Project	20,000,000.00	-	20,000,000.00
Chad: Refugees and Host Communities Support Project Additional Financing	6,000,000.00	3,598,833.19	2,401,166.81-
Mali: Safety Nets Project (JigisemeJiri)	2,400,000.00	1,122,268.75	1,277,731.25-
Mali: SWEDD+	15,000,000.00	-	15,000,000.00
Mauritania: Social Safety Net System 2 Second Additional Financing	10,000,000.00	2,074,812.00	7,925,188.00
Mauritania: Social Safety Net System 2 Additional Financing	13,000,000.00	12,999,960.01	39.99
Mauritania: Social Safety Net System 2	7,000,000.00	7,000,000.00	-
Mauritania: Social Safety Net System	2,300,000.00	2,299,979.77	20.23
Niger: Adaptive Safety Net Project	30,000,000.00	2,408,268.44	27,591,731.56
Senegal: Safety Nets Project	30,000,000.00	23,563,302.89	6,436,697.11
<b>Total</b>	<b>175,700,000.00</b>	<b>87,064,639.67</b>	<b>88,635,360.33</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 16

Financial Status of Regional Bank-Executed Trust Funds, as of June 2025 (Phase 2)

Grant Name	Grant Amount	Expenses	Commitment	Available Budget
Fragility and Forced Displacement	1,500,000.00	1,499,917.86	-	82.14
Shock-Responsive Social Protection	2,010,000.00	2,006,301.34	-	3,698.66
Human Capital and Overall Regional Program	4,000,000.00	3,979,650.40	-	14,009.79
Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience	1,250,000.00	1,238,644.02	6,200 -	4,645.98
Productive Inclusion and Women's Empowerment	2,400,000.00	2,351,570.14	6,849.81 -	48,429.86
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,160,000.00</b>	<b>11,076,083.76</b>	<b>13,049.81 -</b>	<b>70,866.43</b>

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

### TABLE 17

Financial Status of Country Bank-Executed Trust Funds, as of June 2025 (Phase 2)

Grant Name	Grant Amount	Expenses	Commitments	Available Budget
Burkina Faso	2,421,256.00	1,976,992.19	22,751.89	284,674.13
Chad	3,020,550.34	2,828,082.55	34,591.53	157,565.99
Mauritania	2,910,488.38	2,493,499.51	189,870.00	76.30
Niger	3,864,937.70	3,502,432.17	39,695.36	223,235.73
Mali	2,842,311.55	2,066,301.01	127,179.60	648,830.94
Senegal	2,747,609.93	2,130,708.20	64,561.07	135,153.61
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,807,153.90</b>	<b>15,878,967.75</b>	<b>478,649.45</b>	<b>1,449,536.70</b>

### TABLE 18

Financial Status of Management/Supervision Bank-Executed Trust Funds, as of June 2025 (Phase 2)

Grant Name	Grant Amount	Expenses	Commitments	Available Budget
SASPP Regional Coordination Management and Administration	4,299,000.00	4,109,294.80	68,434.30	121,270.90
Burkina Faso	450,000.00	450,000.00	-	-
Chad	550,000.00	452,049.85	504.00	97,446.15
Mauritania	850,000.00	774,074.69	10,200.00	65,725.31
Niger	600,000.00	598,057.17	-	1,942.83
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,749,000.00</b>	<b>6,383,476.51</b>	<b>79,138.30</b>	<b>286,385.19</b>

# APPENDIXES

## APPENDIX 3 PUBLICATIONS

This list presents publications prepared during FY25. 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 FY25 (original publication date given in parentheses).

PUBLICATION CATEGORY AND NAME	COUNTRY/PILLAR
<b>FLAGSHIP REPORTS</b>	
EN: <a href="#">Annual Report FY24</a>	Overall
EN: <a href="#">A Guide to Implementing Social Safety Nets in Fragile, Conflict, and Violent Contexts: Adaptive Strategies and Approaches to World Bank Safety Net Delivery Amid Challenges</a>	Fragility and Forced Displacement
<b>SASPP POLICY NOTES</b>	
EN: <a href="#">#14 - Pathways to Scale: Expanding Economic Inclusion for Jobs and Resilience In the Sahel</a> FR: <a href="#">#14 - Voies d'expansion: développer l'inclusion économique pour l'emploi et la résilience au sahel</a>	Productive Inclusion and Women's Empowerment
EN: <a href="#">#13 - Dynamic Social Registries for Adaptive Social Protection in the Sahel: Four Recommendations</a> FR: <a href="#">#13 - Registres Sociaux Dynamiques pour la Protection Sociale Adaptative au Sahel : Quatre Recommandations</a>	Climate Shock-Responsive Delivery Systems
EN: <a href="#">#12 - How to Maximize the Impact of Adaptive Social Protection in Contexts of Fragility, Conflict, and Violence: Four Operational Lessons from Burkina Faso and Cameroon</a> FR: <a href="#">#12 - Comment maximiser l'impact de la protection sociale adaptative dans des contextes de fragilité, de conflit et de violence : quatre leçons opérationnelles tirées du Burkina Faso et du Cameroun</a>	Fragility and Forced Displacement/Burkina Faso
EN: <a href="#">#11 - Population Mobility in the Sahel: Implications for Social Protection Programs and Systems</a> FR: <a href="#">#11 - Conséquences de la mobilité des populations Sahéliennes : Sur les programmes et systèmes de protection sociale</a>	Fragility and Forced Displacement
EN: <a href="#">#2 (second edition) - Revisiting Five Facts About Shocks in the Sahel</a> FR: <a href="#">#2 (deuxième édition) - Cinq faits sur les chocs au Sahel, à la lumière de nouvelles données</a>	Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience
<b>SASPP TECHNICAL PAPERS</b>	
<a href="#">The Potential of Productive Safety Nets for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth - A Gender Lens to the Koulikoro Pilot in Mali</a>	Productive Inclusion and Women's Empowerment/Mali
<a href="#">Dynamic Social Registries for Adaptive Social Protection</a>	Climate Shock-Responsive Delivery Systems
<a href="#">Facteurs d'Insécurité Alimentaire en Milieu Urbain en Mauritanie</a> Food Insecurity Factors in Urban Areas in Mauritania (only in FR)	Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience/ Mauritania
<a href="#">Impact des Mesures d'Inclusion Productive des Filets Sociaux au Tchad</a> Impact of the Productive Inclusion Measures of Social Safety Nets in Chad (only in FR)	Productive Inclusion and Women's Empowerment/Chad

<a href="#"><u>Impact des Mesures d'Inclusion Productive du Programme "Tekavoul" en Mauritanie</u></a> Impact of the Productive Inclusion Measures of the "Tekavoul" Program in Mauritania (only in FR)	Productive Inclusion and Women's Empowerment/Mauritania
<a href="#"><u>Impact des Mesures d'Inclusion Productive "Yokk Koom Koom" au Sénégal</u></a> Impact of the "Yokk Koom Koom" Productive Inclusion Measures in Senegal (only in FR)	Productive Inclusion and Women's Empowerment/Senegal
<a href="#"><u>Integrating Internal Migrants in Social Protection Systems: Review on Good Practices to Inform Adaptive Social Protection Programs in the Sahel</u></a>	Fragility and Forced Displacement
<a href="#"><u>The Impact of Social Safety Nets on Economic, Social, and Political Outcomes in Fragile, Conflict, and Violent Contexts: A Review of Evidence</u></a>	Fragility and Forced Displacement
<a href="#"><u>Guidance Note: Developing Human Capital Accompanying Measures in West Africa</u></a>	ASP and Human Capital
<a href="#"><u>Refugees and Host Communities in Eastern and Southern Chad: Key Findings from Qualitative Research on the Dynamics of Socio-Economic Integration in Four Provinces</u></a>	Human Capital
<a href="#"><u>Operational lessons from scaling up Productive Inclusion in Senegal (Atelier December 2023)</u></a>	Productive Inclusion and Women's Empowerment/Senegal
<a href="#"><u>Non-Agricultural Income Sources Across the Sahel (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Niger, Senegal)</u></a>	Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience
<b>ASP IN BRIEF</b>	
EN: <a href="#"><u>Mapping Impact in Burkina Faso: The Country-Level Impact of Adaptive Social Protection Programs in the Sahel</u></a> FR: <a href="#"><u>Cartographie des impacts au Burkina Faso : Impact au niveau national des programmes de protection sociale adaptative au Sahel</u></a>	Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience/Burkina Faso
EN: <a href="#"><u>Mapping Impact in Chad: Country-Level Impact of Adaptive Safety Nets in the Sahel</u></a> FR: <a href="#"><u>Cartographie des impacts au Tchad : Impact au niveau national des filets sociaux adaptatifs au Sahel</u></a>	Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience/Chad
EN: <a href="#"><u>Mapping Impact in Mali: The Country-Level Impact of Adaptive Social Protection Programs in the Sahel</u></a> FR: <a href="#"><u>Cartographie des impacts au Mali : Impact au niveau national des programmes de protection sociale adaptative au Sahel</u></a>	Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience/Mali
EN: <a href="#"><u>Mapping Impact in Niger: The Country-Level Impact of Adaptive Social Protection Programs in the Sahel</u></a> FR: <a href="#"><u>Cartographie des impacts au Niger : Impact au niveau national des programmes de protection sociale adaptative au Sahel</u></a>	Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience/Niger
EN: <a href="#"><u>Mapping Impact in Senegal: The Country-Level Impact of Adaptive Social Protection Programs in the Sahel</u></a> FR: <a href="#"><u>Cartographie des impacts au Sénégal : Impact au niveau national des programmes de protection sociale adaptative au Sahel</u></a>	Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience/Senegal
EN: <a href="#"><u>Mapping Impact in the Sahel: Regional Impacts of Adaptive Social Protection Programs on Capacities for Resilience to Climate Change</u></a> FR: <a href="#"><u>Cartographie des impacts au sahel : Impacts régionaux des programmes de protection sociale adaptative sur les capacités de résilience au changement climatique</u></a>	Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience

<b>SASPP ASP IN BRIEF SERIES</b>	
EN: <a href="#">The earlier, the better? Impact of shock-responsive monetary transfers for droughts in Niger</a> FR: <a href="#">Le plus tôt, le mieux ? Impact des transferts monétaires en réponse aux chocs de sécheresse au Niger</a>	Climate and Shock-Responsive Delivery Systems
EN: <a href="#">How to Increase and Diversify the Incomes of the Poorest - Findings from the Yokk Koom Koom Program Experience in Senegal</a> FR: <a href="#">Sénégal : comment accroître et diversifier les revenus des plus pauvres – enseignements tirés de l'expérience du programme Yokk Koom Koom</a>	
<b>BLOGS</b>	
<a href="#">What happens to my social protection benefits when I'm on the move in my own country? (EN/FR)</a>	Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience
<a href="#">Including those in need, when they need it: Why dynamic social registries matter in shock-prone contexts like the Sahel (EN/FR)</a>	Climate Shock-Responsive Delivery Systems
<a href="#">Transforming lives in Mauritania through adaptive social protection (EN/FR)</a>	Mauritania
<a href="#">Climbing the ladder of opportunity in the Sahel through economic inclusion (EN/FR)</a>	Productive Inclusion and Women's Empowerment
<b>OTHER PUBLICATIONS</b>	
<a href="#">Building Climate Resilience at Scale in the Sahel: Where Climate Funds and Social Protection Make Common Cause</a>	CGAP/SASPP
EN: <a href="#">A Practical Guide for a Common Understanding of Adaptive Social Protection in the Sahel: Key instruments and standards</a> FR: <a href="#">Guide pratique pour une compréhension commune de la protection sociale adaptative au Sahel : les instruments clés et leurs standards</a>	UNICEF/WFP/SASPP
EN: <a href="#">Financing Adaptive Social Protection in Mali: Disaster Risk Finance Diagnostic</a> FR: <a href="#">Financement de la Protection Sociale Adaptative au Mali: Diagnostic du Financement des Risques de Catastrophes</a>	CDP/Climate Shock-Responsive Delivery Systems
<a href="#">The Food Security and Nutrition Challenge: What Role for Social Protection in the Sahel?</a>	UNICEF/WFP/SASPP
EN Evidence Review: <a href="#">How Does Social Protection Impact Social Cohesion in the Sahel? A Review of Evidence and Gaps</a> FR <a href="#">Quel est l'Impact de la Protection Sociale sur la Cohésion Sociale au Sahel ? Un Examen des Données Probantes Existantes et des Lacunes</a>	UNICEF/WFP/SASPP Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience
EN Presentation: <a href="#">How Does Social Protection Impact Social Cohesion in the Sahel? A Review of Current Evidence and Gaps</a> FR: <a href="#">Quel est l'impact de la protection sociale sur la cohésion sociale au Sahel ? Un examen des données probantes existantes et des lacunes</a>	UNICEF/WFP/SASPP Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience
<a href="#">Safety Nets in Contexts of Violence, Fragility and Forced Displacement: The Case of Burkina Faso and Cameroon</a>	Fragility and Forced Displacement/Burkina Faso
<a href="#">Impacts and Spillovers of a Low-Cost Multifaceted Economic Inclusion Program in Chad</a>	Productive Inclusion and Women's Empowerment/Chad

<a href="#">Dynamic Social Registries for Adaptive Social Protection on the Sahel: Considerations for Their Design and Operationalization</a>	Climate Shock-Responsive Delivery Systems
EN: <a href="#">Understanding the Impacts, Deconstructing the Myths: The Proven Effects of Social Safety Net Programs in the Sahel and Beyond</a> FR: <a href="#">Comprendre les impacts, déconstruire les mythes : les effets démontrés des programmes de filets sociaux au Sahel et au-delà</a>	Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience
<a href="#">Integrating Internal Migrants in Social Protection Systems: Global Good Practices to Inform Adaptive Social Protection Programs in the Sahel</a>	Fragility and Forced Displacement
<a href="#">Brève introduction à la protection sociale et résilience climatique en Mauritanie</a> A Brief Introduction to Social Protection and Climate Resilience in Mauritania (only in FR)	Climate Shock-Responsive Delivery Systems /Mauritania
<a href="#">Leveraging SWIFT to Enhance Proxy Means Testing: Improving Efficiency and Shock-Responsiveness in Dynamic Social Registries</a>	Climate Shock-Responsive Delivery Systems
Chad: <a href="#">Summary of the new SASPP-Supported Adaptive and Productive Safety Nets Project</a>	Chad
Mauritania: <a href="#">Summary of SASPP-Supported Social Safety Net System Project II (SSNSP) - Second Additional Financing</a> (updated)	Mauritania
EN: <a href="#">Adaptive Social Protection in Chad: At the Heart of the National Social Protection Strategy 2024-2028</a> (Infographic) FR: <a href="#">La Protection Sociale Adaptative au Tchad Au Cœur de la Stratégie Nationale de Protection Sociale 2024–2028</a>	Chad
PPT: <a href="#">Self-Help Plus au Sénégal - Boîte à outils interactif du facilitateur pour la mise en œuvre des modules de gestion du stress</a> Self-Help Plus in Senegal – Interactive Facilitator Toolkit for Implementing Stress Management Modules (only in FR)	
PPT: <a href="#">Programmes d’inclusion productive au Sahel Aperçu des programmes et des résultats d’évaluation dans la région</a> Productive Inclusion Programs in the Sahel Overview of Programs and Evaluation Results in the Region (only in FR)	Productive Inclusion and Women’s Empowerment/Chad
World Bank Policy Research WP: <a href="#">The Earlier the Better? Cash Transfers for Drought Response in Niger</a>	Climate Shock-Responsive Delivery Systems /Niger
PPT: <a href="#">Le plus tôt, le mieux ? Impact des transferts monétaires en réponse aux chocs de sécheresse au Niger</a> (Only in FR)	Climate Shock-Responsive Delivery Systems /Niger
<b>SASPP QUARTERLY DIGEST EXTERNAL NEWSLETTER</b>	
<a href="#">Quarterly Digest Issue #6: September 2024</a>	
<a href="#">Quarterly Digest Issue #7: December 2024</a>	
<a href="#">Quarterly Digest Issue #8: March 2025</a>	
<a href="#">Quarterly Digest Issue #9: June 2025</a>	