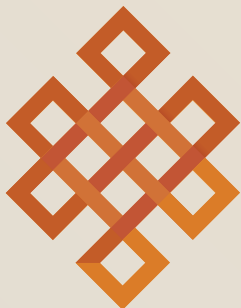


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# SAHEL ADAPTIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION PROGRAM

**ANNUAL REPORT | Fiscal Year 2023**



## ANNUAL REPORT | Fiscal Year 2023

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# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The 2023 Sahel Adaptive Social Protection Program (SASPP) Annual Report was prepared by the SASPP management team, led by Aline Coudouel in the West Africa unit of the Social Protection and Jobs Global Practice at the World Bank (WB). Core team members include Mira Saidi, Anne Anglio, Lydie Billey, and Consuella Rabearivony. The team benefitted from inputs and contributions from Christian Bodewig as well as members of the SASPP country teams, SASPP thematic pillars teams, and Knowledge Management and Communications team. Additional thanks to Laurence Tissot for editing the report.



The SASPP management team extends its gratitude to the SASPP donors and the Partnership Council for their strategic guidance: the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ); the Agence Française de Développement (AFD); the Denmark Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the United Kingdom Foreign; and the Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO).

Last, the SASPP management team is grateful for the enduring collaboration of partner organizations, in particular, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Food Programme (WFP).

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## SASPP COUNTRIES



# ABBREVIATIONS

<b>ACF</b> Action Contre la Faim (Action Against Hunger)	<b>DCAN</b> Permanent Shock Response Framework—Mauritania	<b>IDA</b> International Development Association	<b>RSU</b> Registre Social Unifié (Unified Social Registry)—Chad, Mali, Niger
<b>AFD</b> Agence Française de Développement (French Development Agency)	<b>DHS</b> Demographic and Health Surveys	<b>IDP</b> Internally Displaced Person	<b>SASPP</b> Sahel Adaptive Social Protection Program
<b>AfDB</b> African Development Bank Group	<b>DRF</b> Disaster Risk Financing	<b>IMF</b> International Monetary Fund	<b>SEA/SH</b> Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/Sexual Harassment
<b>ANSD</b> Agence Nationale de la Statistique et de la Démographie (Statistical Office)—Senegal	<b>ECOWAS</b> Economic Community of West African State	<b>IRC</b> International Rescue Committee	<b>Se-CNSA</b> Secrétariat Exécutif au Conseil National de Sécurité Alimentaire (Food Security Coordination Agency)—Senegal
<b>ARC</b> African Risk Capacity	<b>EWS</b> Early Warning Systems	<b>KMC</b> Knowledge Management and Communications	<b>SISAAP</b> Early Warning System Institution
<b>ASP</b> Adaptive Social Protection	<b>FAO</b> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	<b>LMIC</b> Low- and Middle- Income Countries	<b>SQ-LNS</b> Small-Quantity Lipid-based Nutrient Supplements
<b>BETF</b> Bank-executed trust fund	<b>FASA</b> Fonds d'Appui à la Sécurité Alimentaire	<b>MDCSNEST</b> Ministère du Développement Communautaire, de la Solidarité Nationale, et de l'Équité Sociale et Territoriale—Senegal	<b>SWIFT</b> Survey of Well-being via Instant and Frequent Tracking
<b>BMZ</b> German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development	<b>FCDO</b> United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office	<b>MDTF</b> Multi-Donor Trust Fund	<b>UNFPA</b> United Nations Fund for Population Activities
<b>CDP</b> Centre for Disaster Protection	<b>FCV</b> Fragility, Conflict, and Violence	<b>MIS</b> Management Information System	<b>UNHCR</b> United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
<b>CFS</b> Cellule Filets Sociaux (Safety Net Unit)—Chad and Niger	<b>FIFI</b> Food Insecurity Predictive Model—Mauritania	<b>MoU</b> Memorandum of Understanding	<b>UNICEF</b> United Nations Children's Fund
<b>CGAP</b> Consultative Group to Assist the Poor	<b>FNRCAN</b> National Fund for Response to Food and Nutrition Crises—Mauritania	<b>NGO</b> Non-governmental Organization	<b>WASH</b> Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
<b>CILSS</b> Comité permanent Inter-Etats de Lutte contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel (Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel)	<b>FNS</b> Fonds National de Solidarité (National Solidarity Fund)—Burkina Faso	<b>OSA</b> Observatoire à la Sécurité Alimentaire (Food Security Observatory)	<b>WB</b> World Bank
<b>CNARR</b> Commission Nationale d'accueil de Réinsertion des Réfugiés (National Commission for the Reception and Reintegration of Refugees and Returnees)—Chad	<b>FSN</b> Fonds de Solidarité Nationale (National Solidarity Fund)—Senegal	<b>PARCA</b> Refugees and Host Communities Support Project	<b>WFP</b> World Food Programme
<b>DGPSN</b> Délégation Générale à La Protection Sociale et à La Solidarité Nationale—Senegal	<b>FY</b> Fiscal Year	<b>PER</b> Public Expenditure Review	<b>WRSI</b> Water Requirement Satisfaction Index
	<b>GBV</b> Gender-Based Violence	<b>PMT</b> Proxy Means Test	
	<b>GIZ</b> German Agency for International Cooperation	<b>PNBSF</b> Programme National de Bourses de Sécurité Familiale—Senegal	
	<b>GRM</b> Grievance Redress Mechanism	<b>RETF</b> Recipient-executed trust fund	
		<b>RNU</b> Registre National Unique (Single National Registry)—Senegal	

All dollar amounts are U.S. dollars unless otherwise indicated.





# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Sahel region continues to face high levels of poverty and vulnerability, and recurrent and protracted crises make it one of the most fragile regions in the world. During the past World Bank fiscal year (FY2023, from July 2022 to June 2023), climate shocks, global food price increases, increased violence, and fragility overlapped, 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 scale up social protection and invest in adaptive social protection 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—to build adaptive social protection systems to help vulnerable households adapt to the impacts of climate change and other shocks.** This multi-donor trust fund (MDTF) is funded with 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 implemented by government agencies or directly executed by the World Bank.** Most of SASPP's investments are embedded in larger 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 of the SASPP achieved during FY23.** It provides an overview

of activities in the six SASPP countries along the four building blocks for adaptive social protection (ASP): (1) programs and delivery systems, (2) data and information, (3) financing, and (4) institutional arrangements and partnerships. The activities were identified based on the results of the ASP Stress Test implemented during the previous fiscal year across the six Sahel countries, which showed that all six countries had made progress in establishing key building blocks of social protection systems and embedding shock-responsive functions and indicated where additional work was needed. In particular, in FY23, in addition to the ongoing support across elements of the four blocks, further focus was made on financing, the third building block, as the ability of governments to mobilize and coordinate resources and funds remains a challenge.

**This Annual Report also provides an overview of activities across the SASPP's five thematic pillars of engagement in the regional knowledge program.** 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. In FY23, in addition to the ongoing analytical and technical support activities, the program has increased its focus on the pillar related to human capital and added new components focused on how ASP can take forced displacement and population movements in the region into account to maximize its impact. Additional efforts are also underway to document ASP's impacts on poverty and vulnerability (under the poverty, vulnerability, and resilience pillar). In particular, impacts on beneficiary households in the short term (consumption, poverty) and in their longer-term resilience (production, income, savings, investments) have been documented, alongside broader impacts on social cohesion (inequality, participation, tensions), impacts on future generations (education, health, early childhood development), and broader economic impacts (impacts on the local economy and non-beneficiaries).

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**The Sahel Adaptive Social Protection Program (SASPP) supports six Sahelian countries in building adaptive social protection systems to help vulnerable households — in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, and Senegal— adapt to the impacts of climate change and other shocks.**

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**The SASPP Results Framework displays the program's results during FY23, highlighting the progress made along the four building blocks, largely in line with the targets set at the beginning of the program.** The program's support to the delivery of shock-response cash transfers, whether as a response to climate shocks or to the COVID-19 pandemic, surpassed the initial targets, supporting over 1,700,000 individuals. Productive inclusion programs also increased their coverage to reach over 72,000 households, with a planned expansion in four countries. Last, the annual report offers a detailed overview of the program's donor contributions status and financial data, including the historical and current project portfolios indicating commitments and disbursements.







# 1

## CONTEXT AND CHALLENGES: CRISIS AND FRAGILITY

**Countries in the Sahel region are among the poorest in the world.** Burkina Faso, Chad, Niger, Mali, Mauritania, and Senegal have some of the world's lowest Human Capital Index Scores, ranking among the lowest 40 countries. In the region, children born in 2020 could expect to achieve only 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. This situation is only exacerbated by the complex interplay of conflict, climate change, fragility, and the global economy, among other challenges.

**The Sahel continues to be one of the most impacted regions in the world by 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. Five of the six Sahel countries rank among the 40 countries most vulnerable and yet least prepared to face the threats of climate change. 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. While the 2022 rainy season in the Sahel (June to September) was an improvement compared to 2021, drier conditions persisted in parts of the region while others suffered from severe floods. Floods affected nearly 40,000 people in Mauritania and over 1 million people in Chad, which recorded its heaviest rainfall in 30 years and declared a state of emergency in October 2022.

**Insecurity worsened in 2022 and 2023, particularly in the tri-border area of Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger.**

The Sahel has entered its second decade of crisis since the start of its political instability in 2012, and 2022 also represented one of the worst years on record since 2012 in terms of political violence. Burkina Faso experienced its second coup in less than a year in September 2022. Increased conflict and insecurity have led to greater forced displacement, with over 1 million refugees present across the region and nearly 3.2 million internally displaced people (IDPs) in Burkina Faso (over 2 million IDPs), Chad, Mali, and Niger (780,000 refugees and 1.1 million IDPs at the end of 2020). Fragility and insecurity are expanding to the rest of the region, including Benin, Togo, and Guinea.

**Countries in the Sahel also suffer from the increase in global food prices.**

Despite its focus on agriculture, the Sahel relies heavily on imported food products and imports most of its staple food crops. Inflation is linked to an increase in food products and production costs across supply chain components, such as fertilizers and logistics, as a result of COVID-19 disruptions and the war in Ukraine. The disruption of transport and accessibility due to conflict has also played a role.

**The confluence of climate change, conflict, and global inflation resulted in 2023 being among the worst lean seasons in the last decade.** During the 2023 lean season (June to September), an estimated 11.5 million people will face food insecurity, a 10-year high in terms of acute food insecurity. Conflict areas in Burkina and Mali are particularly affected, and some households are considered to be at risk of catastrophic levels of hunger.

**Adaptive social protection (ASP) can play a critical role in mitigating the consequences of compounding crises and increasing resilience to future shocks.** There is mounting global evidence that ASP is a critical instrument to build resilience to climate shocks, help the poorest and most climate-vulnerable households adapt to climate change, and mitigate the impacts of shocks. In the Sahel, countries have been establishing social protection systems since 2012 and harnessed these systems to address chronic poverty, lean season food insecurity, and, more recently, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic has demonstrated the critical role of ASP in responding to shocks, not only in the Sahel but globally. Having strong ASP systems—for example, programs, social registries, and payment systems—in place before shocks or crises was found to be critical to an efficient

response. Timely responses ensure households do not resort to negative coping strategies. In addition to limiting the impacts of shocks, ASP can build household resilience in the Sahel, as confirmed by the demonstrated impacts of economic inclusion programs deployed in the Sahel.

**Looking ahead, strengthening ASP systems is increasingly central to policies to address crises and build greater resilience to climate change and conflict.** Climate change is worsening and having more severe impacts on households in terms of decreased agricultural outputs resulting from severe droughts and loss of assets or displacement as a result of floods. In addition to their impacts on the poor and vulnerable, increasing conflict and fragility also create challenges to implementing programs. Overall, climate and conflict contribute to greater needs. Responding to this situation requires investments in systems to ensure programs can be scaled up as needed. In addition to a focus on addressing crises, a long-term vision is needed in order to build resilience and deploy the instruments needed to face a fast-changing environment.





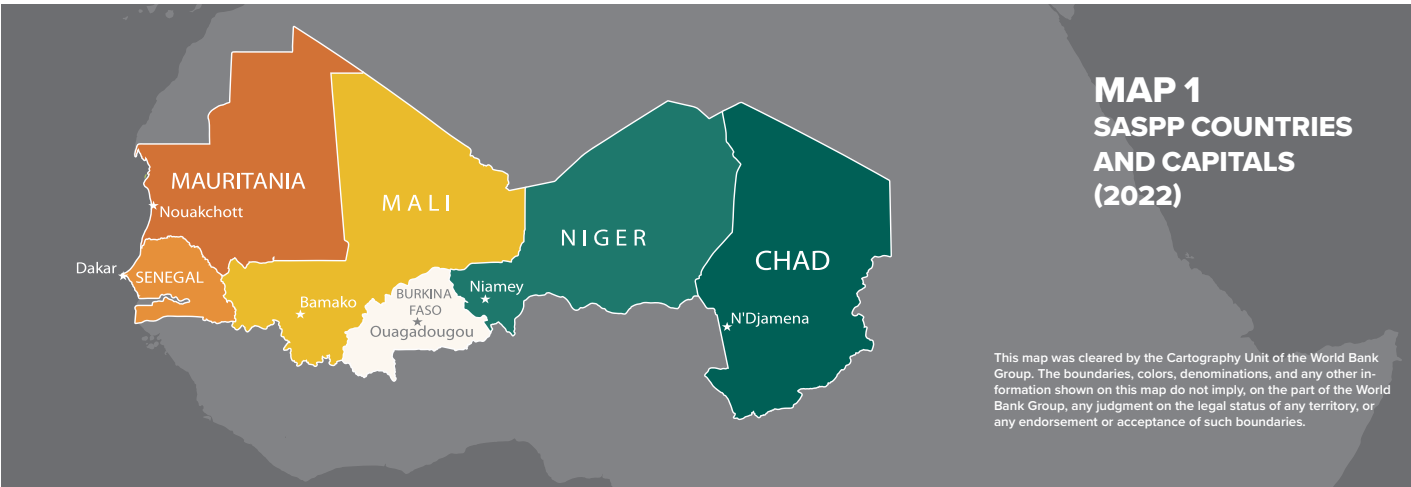


## 2 THE SAHEL ADAPTIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION PROGRAM: OVERVIEW

### 2.1 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 adaptive social protection (ASP) systems primarily to help vulnerable households adapt to the impacts of shocks with a particular focus on shocks induced by climate change. Adaptation in this context is understood as the process of adjusting to the current and future effects of climate change by anticipating the adverse effects of climate change and taking actions to prevent or minimize the damage they can cause or taking advantage of opportunities that may arise.



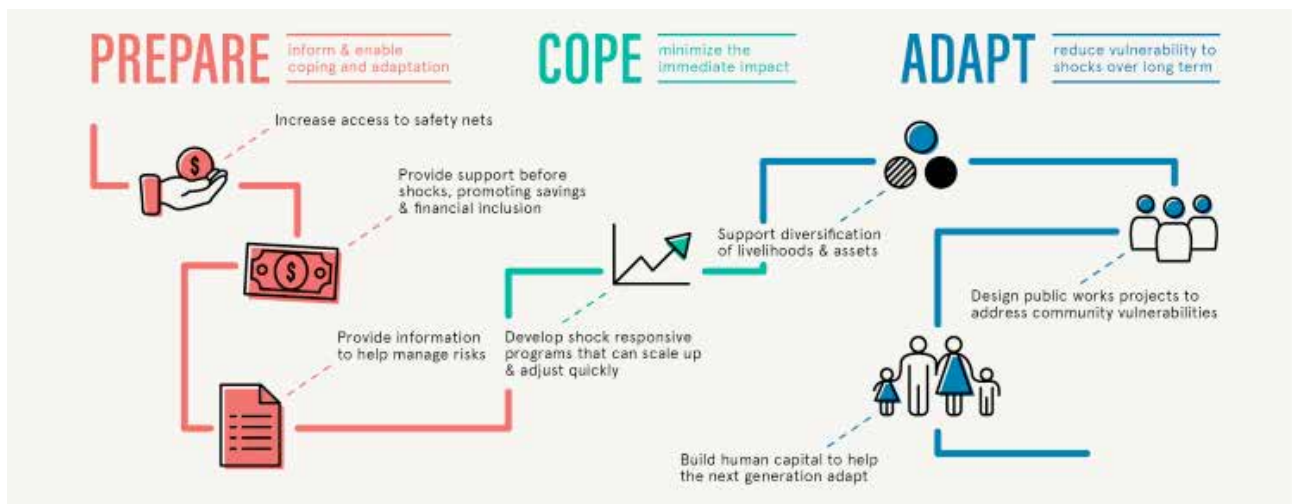
## BOX 1 WHAT IS ADAPTIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION?

**Adaptive Social Protection (ASP)** helps build the resilience of poor and vulnerable households by investing in their capacity to prepare for, cope with, and adapt to shocks, ensuring that they do not fall deeper into poverty. The ASP approach integrates basic social protection with disaster risk management and adaptation to climate change.

By way of its four building blocks—**programs and delivery systems, data and information, financing, and institutional arrangements and partnerships**—ASP has emerged as a critical tool to help poor and vulnerable households and communities become more resilient to shocks and stresses, in particular impacts of climate change, by providing a combination of cash transfers and assistance to strengthen knowledge and behavioral change to promote sustainable and diversified livelihood opportunities.

### FIGURE 1

How can ASP help?



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

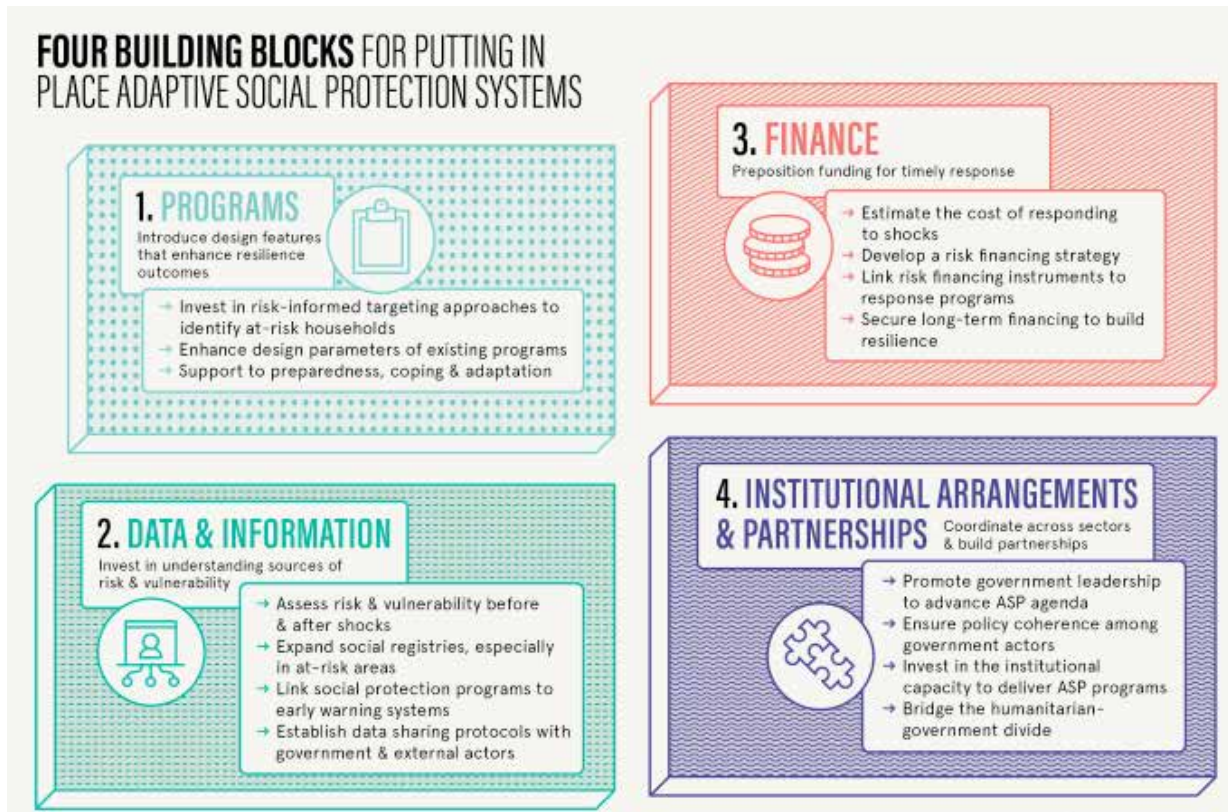
The four blocks include a range of dimensions critical for ASP to provide a basis for shock response successfully. They include technical, financial, and political dimensions as follows:

- 1. Programs and delivery systems:** Promoting programs and delivery systems responsive to shocks in that they have anticipated and planned for shocks.
- 2. Data and information:** Ensuring information on household vulnerability to shocks and their capacity to cope and recover informs the design and implementation of ASP programs, including through dynamic social registries.
- 3. Finance:** Putting in place risk financing strategies that promote proactive response planning, enable funding to be available in case of a shock, and limit delays in response.
- 4. Institutional arrangements and partnerships:** Supporting government leadership in the coordination of actors based on clear articulation of roles and responsibilities.

## 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 building blocks, deploying a combination of country and regional activities. Through a combination of Recipient-executed trust fund (RETF) and Bank-executed trust fund (BETF) 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 activities planned under the regional pillars and the technical assistance in each country are very closely coordinated. Indeed, regional activities typically stem from demand from country teams for support in areas relevant to multiple stakeholders, where joint learning is warranted. Similarly, the activities

planned under the various analytical pillars are coordinated and complementary, ensuring data collection efforts can be shared where relevant and analytical findings inform operational guidance and vice versa.

The SASPP is managed by the Social Protection and Jobs unit of the West-Central Africa regional department of the World Bank (WB) 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, preparing strategic directions for each year, providing advice to teams, processing grants, and monitoring and evaluating the SASPP portfolio based on its results framework. Together with the regional staff, the core management team promotes knowledge exchanges and peer learning, and it ensures the



alignment of the SASPP work program with the broader ASP agenda of the WB. 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.

## 2.2 IMPLEMENTATION OVERVIEW

**Overall, since the inception of the SASPP in 2014, the MDTF has allocated US\$172.95 million to investment projects in the six countries as part of IDA engagement.** During Phase 2, the program has so far allocated US\$128.4 million (US\$40m in Burkina Faso, US\$6 million in Chad, US\$2.4 million in Mali, US\$20 million in Mauritania, US\$30 million in Niger, and US\$30 million in Senegal, see Tables 12 and 14 in Appendix 2). New operations are currently planned for FY24 in Burkina Faso and Mauritania and early FY25 in Chad, which will also contribute to SASPP funding. As can be seen from Table 12, the SASPP leveraged significant IDA financing (overall around US\$947 million). Areas of support vary across countries, and details for the ongoing support are provided below for each country. Overall, SASPP's recipient-executed activities have focused on financing systems-building (social registries, payment systems, early warning system [EWS]), institutional arrangements (coordination mechanisms, strategies, triggers, and so on), 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.

**Under the recipient-executed grants, the results framework presented in Appendix 1 highlights the support to beneficiaries.** Overall, the program's support to the delivery of shock-response cash transfers, whether as a response to climate shocks or to the COVID-19 pandemic, surpassed the initial targets, supporting over 1,700,000 individuals. Productive inclusion programs also increased their coverage to reach over 72,000 households, with a planned expansion in four countries.

**At the regional level, SASPP has supported a broad regional analytical work and knowledge exchange agenda, so far allocating around US\$7.86 million to these elements in Phase 2 (see Table 15 in Appendix 2).** The ongoing and planned work under the five pillars is presented in detail below, and it has contributed to the generation of deepened knowledge (for instance, on the impact of seasonality on welfare or the various risk profiles of households and the impact of shocks on human capital); evidence on the impact of alternative program design (for instance, for the productive inclusion activities or alternative designs for response programs); detailed diagnostics (for instance, of early warning systems, payment systems, or risk financing instruments); operational guidance (for instance on adaptive social registries, triggers for shock-response financing, and guidance on addressing the needs of displaced people); as well as analysis of options for improved design (for instance, on complementary activities focused on human capital). 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. Strong partnerships have been established with critical partners (see Box 2) to guide the regional work, in addition to the partnerships in place at the country level (see Box 11 for an example of collaboration in Mauritania).



## BOX 2 COLLABORATION WITH KEY ASP PARTNERS

**The SASPP team has built a rich collaboration with key development and humanitarian partners, in particular WFP and UNICEF, who play a critical role in the promotion of the ASP agenda in the Sahel.** The collaboration in each country or around each thematic area is detailed in the relevant sections of this report. Collaboration is also actively sustained at the regional level. In particular, a strong partnership has been developed with the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and World Food Programme’s (WFP) regional teams, characterized by a dynamic, cooperative, and substantive collaboration. After an initial phase motivated by strong ambition from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) to ensure the three partners join forces, the coalition has taken a self-driven proactivity. A shared vision of the steps needed to advance the ASP agenda in the Sahel has been fundamental in materializing actions geared toward strengthening and supporting national, government-led ASP programs. The use of a common conceptual framework—the building blocks for ASP—was essential. The partners applied the Stress Test Tool across the Sahel to develop a shared understanding of the situation on which the three partners identified joint activities to align support and enhance the quality of the technical support. Funding from the SASPP and KfW Development Bank/BMZ for UNICEF and WFP has supported the partnership.

**The SASPP country teams have also developed a strong collaboration with colleagues in the International Monetary Fund (IMF).** As part of its policy dialogue and support to governments in the Sahel, the IMF has been providing recommendations related to the role social protection can play in promoting the resilience of the poor and vulnerable and providing support in response to crises or policy reforms. A close collaboration helps ensure that both institutions align their recommendations for the strengthening of the ASP system. For instance, in Senegal, in May 2023, the new IMF program supports reforms aiming at eliminating energy subsidies and includes safety net measures to compensate for the negative impact on the poor and vulnerable. These measures were defined in close collaboration with the World Bank to their alignment with the Bank’s support of the ASP agenda. In Mauritania, the IMF is a key partner, advocating for the ASP agenda, in particular for government financing of ASP and expanding the social registry and the national safety net program. In Burkina Faso, in collaboration with the WB, the IMF included the establishment and financing of the national safety net program (including its shock-responsive and productive elements) in its policy dialogue with the government.

**The SASPP also has strong technical partnerships with the Center for Disaster Protection (CDP) and the Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP).** The ongoing collaboration with the CGAP (in partnership with the German Agency for International Cooperation [GIZ]) focuses on payment systems and supports both system assessments and piloting innovative approaches for the digitization of payments. The partnership with CDP (supported by FCDO) was launched in FY23 and focuses on disaster risk finance (DRF), organized around support to the development of early climate-response triggers, analyses of country DRF environments, and identification of potential country ASP financing options. Details are provided in the country and thematic pillars below.

**In FY24, the SASPP team will seek to forge new partnerships, or deepen existing ones, with additional regional actors who can play a critical role in promoting the key building blocks of ASP and their sustainability.** Among others, the SASPP team will explore partnerships with regional institutions which support national governments in monitoring climate shocks, putting in place early warning systems, or designing national response plans (including, for instance, AGRHYMET-Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) which benefits from support from various development partners such as UNDP). Other partnerships include the Sahel Alliance (building on the organization of a high-level meeting in April 2023 to discuss the impacts and challenges of ASP in the Sahel) and the Sahel and West Africa Club, which promotes regional policies to improve the economic and social well-being of people in the Sahel and West Africa.

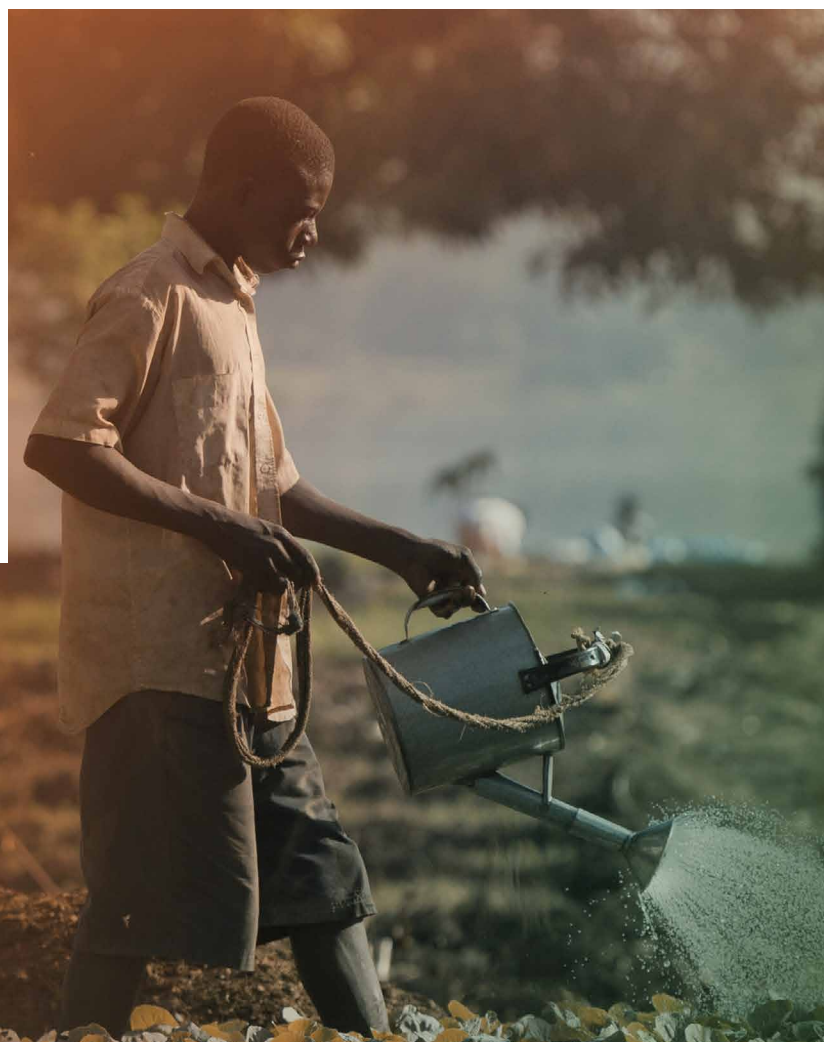
**At the country level, SASPP has supported the deployment of in-depth technical assistance on a broad range of issues in each country.** So far, almost US\$12 million has been allocated to country-specific technical assistance during Phase 2 (of which US\$10.6 million has been committed or disbursed, see Table 16 in Appendix 2). These BETFs 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. In each country, teams implement a series of activities across multiple areas, depending on the needs of our counterparts. These are summarized below and organized along the four building blocks of ASP to facilitate cross-learning and regional exchanges. 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\$4.8 million, see Table 17 in Appendix 2). Results are discussed in the country section below.

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**In the coming fiscal year, in addition to plans detailed in each of the sections below, the SASPP will strive to define a regional vision focused on the sustainability of emerging adaptive social protection systems.**

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**Recent shocks, including the crisis triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic, have provided an opportunity for important investments in ASP systems.** Moreover, evidence from the Sahel and beyond underscore the relevance of ASP, and its impacts, in addressing the growing vulnerability to shocks. At the same time, several international agenda converged, which highlight the role of ASP as a mechanism to address both the impacts of climate change and the growing fragility in the Sahel. The SASPP will seek to identify and support the key elements which will be critical to the sustainability of the ASP systems in the long term—including widespread recognition across societies of the relevance and impacts of ASP; the importance of government leadership; political commitment at the local, national, and international levels; clear institutional anchoring of ASP; as well as efforts by development and humanitarian actors to contribute to the development of national systems and align their support.







## 3 SASPP REGIONAL PROGRAM: FY23 ACHIEVEMENTS AND FY24 PLANS

The SASPP regional knowledge program aims to promote regional analytical work and expand knowledge generation and sharing on topics critical to strengthening climate-adaptive social protection systems in the Sahel. The activities aim to generate critical insights into the nature of climate shocks, how they impact poor and vulnerable households, and the design of instruments to address those effects. While the principal emphasis is on climate-related shocks, the program reflects the utility of adaptive social protection (ASP) to build resilience to covariate shocks more generally (for example, food insecurity, fragility, and the COVID-19 pandemic). To that end, the SASPP team, in consultation with government counterparts and partners, focuses on analysis, learning, and knowledge within five thematic pillars common across countries that can benefit from a regional approach (Box 3). These activities are interconnected and strongly anchored in the country-focused operational programs supported by the SASPP multi-donor trust fund (MDTF) across the six countries.

### BOX 3 SASPP REGIONAL KNOWLEDGE PROGRAM THEMATIC PILLARS

<b>A</b>	<b>Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience</b> Deepening the understanding of the nature of climate-related shocks and their impacts on poverty
<b>B</b>	<b>Climate-Shock Responsive Delivery Systems</b> Informing the design and support of the delivery of shock-responsive social protection
<b>C</b>	<b>Productive Inclusion and Women’s Empowerment</b> Informing the design and implementation of new waves of economic inclusion interventions
<b>D</b>	<b>Fragility and Forced Displacement</b> Supporting social protection operations in navigating the increased fragility and forced displacement
<b>E</b>	<b>Adaptive Social Protection and Human Capital</b> Understanding how adaptive social protection programs can enhance investments in human capital and protect households from divestments in the face of an increased frequency and severity of natural shocks due to climate change

**In addition to the continued analytical or technical focus on ongoing activities, a few new areas were initiated in FY23.**

Under the pillar on poverty, vulnerability, and resilience, in addition to ongoing work on understanding shocks and their impacts, a fourth component was added to understand better the impacts ASP can have on the broader economy and society and to assess their impacts beyond their direct beneficiaries. Under the climate shock-responsive delivery systems pillar, the SASPP made significant investments in adaptive delivery systems (especially social registries) and disaster risk financing for shock-responsive social protection. Under the third pillar, economic inclusion and women empowerment, the team supported evaluations across the region to generate region-specific operational learning and implementation lessons which will prove critical for the programs' planned expansion. The fragility and forced displacement pillar added two new components in addition to the initial focus on social cohesion, fragility, and the links between humanitarian assistance and ASP. The new components focus more specifically on making operations fit for forced displacement and on adapting design and implementation to population mobility. Finally, building on an improved understanding of the linkages between climate shocks and human capital, the ASP and human capital pillar focused on operational aspects and reviewed relevant interventions in the region and similar countries with a view to supporting the revision and delivery of improved interventions in FY24.

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

**The objective of this thematic area is to deepen the understanding of the nature of climate-related shocks and their impacts on poverty in order to inform the design of shock-response programs in the region.** It also seeks to identify household coping strategies and to provide empirical evidence and knowledge platform to help improve the design of ASP programs and systems at the regional and country levels. Activities are organized around four components, which address different aspects. The first component focuses on understanding the types of shocks prevailing in the Sahel and their impacts on poverty. The second component focuses on understanding the timing of household and community responses to shocks, with a view to inform the nature and timing of response programs. The third component aims at better understanding the

mechanisms by which shocks affect households to inform the content of interventions. Finally, a fourth component was added in FY23 to understand better the impacts safety nets can have on the broader economy and assess their impacts beyond their direct beneficiaries.

#### COMPONENT 1:

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

**This component aims to provide a clear understanding and quantification of the nature of risk-facing households and the adaptation strategies of households.** These analyses can, in turn, be used to develop recommendations for the targeting and design of resilience-building interventions.

**During FY23, the team analyzed the impact of droughts on household welfare in Niger to inform drought-response interventions.** The analysis led to the elaboration of vulnerability maps for the entire country at a low level of disaggregation (admin three level/commune level), which can inform shock response programs. Niger was selected because of data availability and the government's efforts to develop a drought response program since 2019 with technical assistance from the SASPP. Specifically, the analysis enables quantifying the average number of people affected by moderate and large droughts and the number of people at risk of falling into poverty as a result—information that can facilitate the planning of drought response programs. The analysis considers several drought indicators, including the Water Requirement Satisfaction Index (WRSI) used as a trigger mechanism by the Niger drought response program). This work is being conducted in collaboration with researchers from Virginia Tech and could be extended to other countries in FY24 and beyond if the results are satisfying.

**During FY23, the team also launched a series of activities designed to deepen our understanding of the correlation between poverty and food insecurity.** While most government-led safety net programs aim at addressing chronic poverty, humanitarian agencies and partners in the region tend to prioritize the reduction of food insecurity as their main objective. The objective of this work is to understand the extent to which these objectives overlap and strengthen the dialogue with the Cadre Harmonisé (Harmonized Framework) by better understanding their data

and methodology. As a first step, a literature review of the determinants of food insecurity in Africa was conducted to identify the correlates of food insecurity that could be included in the targeting mechanisms of food insecurity response programs. The second step involved an analysis of the overlap between poverty and food insecurity in the Sahel based on household surveys to assess the extent to which some households are poor but food-secure or non-poor but food-insecure and to present the key characteristics of each group. In FY24, the team will also undertake the geographical mapping of poverty and food insecurity across the region in order to understand the extent to which poverty and food insecurity overlap geographically and inform the selection of areas for shock-response programs.

## COMPONENT 2:

### Timing of household and community responses to shocks

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**This component aims to inform the timing of shock-responsive ASP programs by carefully investigating how welfare evolves as households experience a variety of shocks.** These shocks include annual seasonality related to the growing season as well as drought or extreme rainfall events. Understanding how welfare evolves is essential to inform the timing of interventions to make them most impactful. During FY22 and FY23, the team prepared and disseminated a policy brief assessing the impact of seasonality on poverty and food insecurity in the Sahel. Pooling the data from Burkina Faso, Niger, and Senegal, the policy brief showed that average real monetary consumption was 9.5 percent lower in the lean season than in the non-lean season, enough to push vulnerable households below the poverty line. The share of the population living below the national poverty line in the lean season was 13.7 percentage points higher in Burkina Faso, 6.6 percentage points higher in Niger, and 8.1 percentage points higher in Senegal compared to the non-lean season. Key findings and implications are that Sahelian households experience large seasonal swings in monetary welfare and poverty, even in the absence of climate shocks (for example, even though the 2018 rainy season was considered “above average” across the Sahel in terms of the timing/reliability of rainfall, consumption was significantly lower in the lean season). By nature, seasonality poses a chronic threat that can be anticipated, and existing social protection systems can provide timely assistance by expanding coverage

of regular safety net programs and triggering seasonal response programs as early as February or March. A blog was prepared to boost the dissemination of the policy note, available in [English](#) and [French](#).

**In FY24, the team will finalize an extended version of the analysis to be published in a research journal aimed at a broader audience.** Also, a new follow-up West African Economic and Monetary Union Harmonized Survey of Household Living Conditions (EHCVM) is expected to become available for Sahel countries in FY24 following the same questionnaire. This will provide a basis for the team to explore further the impact of seasonality, including by comparing the evolution of consumption and food security between harvest and lean season in two different agricultural years.

## COMPONENT 3:

### Mechanisms by which shocks affect households

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**The objective of this component is to improve the understanding of the transmission channels by which shocks affect household welfare and access to basic services.** Much of the literature on the impact of shocks has focused on the cumulative impact, and little attention has been given to the transmission mechanisms. Understanding the underlying factors through which shocks impact household livelihoods and coping strategies is critical to design more effective interventions.

**The team analyzed the impact that climate shocks have on three channels—agricultural production, agricultural prices, and marketing strategies.** The analysis focused on the impact on millet production and prices in Niger since millet plays an essential role in the diets of Sahelian populations. Results showed that droughts impacted welfare both through production and by forcing households to sell crops typically intended for household consumption. Large negative rainfall shocks were found to have a bigger impact on millet production than large positive shocks (the negative impact of a one in 10-year drought was more than twice as large as the positive impact of a positive rainfall shock of the same magnitude). When it comes to prices, droughts were found to exacerbate price seasonality by increasing liquidity constraints of poor farmers: In Niger, while less than 10 percent of households sell millet in a regular year (millet



is mostly for household consumption), droughts forced poor households to sell millet at low prices following harvest, which exacerbated price seasonality and was likely to have a damaging impact on nutrition.

**During FY23, to complement our understanding of impact channels, the team focused on non-agricultural income sources.** The objective is to deepen our understanding of the various income sources that Sahelian households have at their disposal and the relative importance. The team relied on the analysis of the EHCVM surveys that cover Niger, Mali, Burkina Faso, and Chad. Indeed, diversification of income-generating activities outside of agriculture is an important resilience-building mechanism, but knowledge on the importance of non-agricultural income among poor households in the Sahel was limited by data constraints. In FY23, an analysis was implemented, which distinguishes three main sources of non-agricultural income: 1) income generated from non-agricultural household enterprises such as trade and services, 2) wage income, and 3) transfers. The analysis shows that although a large share of households is engaged in non-agricultural activities, the income derived from these activities is limited. Profits from non-agricultural businesses are minimal, even when incomes generated are substantial, especially in urban areas, because of important costs. At the extreme, the share of enterprises actually losing money ranges from 5 percent in Mali to 25 percent in Senegal. This work is relevant to inform the design and selection of accompanying measures delivered in productive inclusion programs that aim to develop the productive capacities of vulnerable and poor households.

**During FY24, this component will focus on other key transmission channels through which climate-related shocks affect the poor in the long term, namely infants' nutrition.** In coordination with the activities of the human capital pillar (see details below), the analysis will focus on assessing the impact of drought on children's health. The analysis will use the demographic and health surveys (DHS) available for Sahelian countries.

#### COMPONENT 4:

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

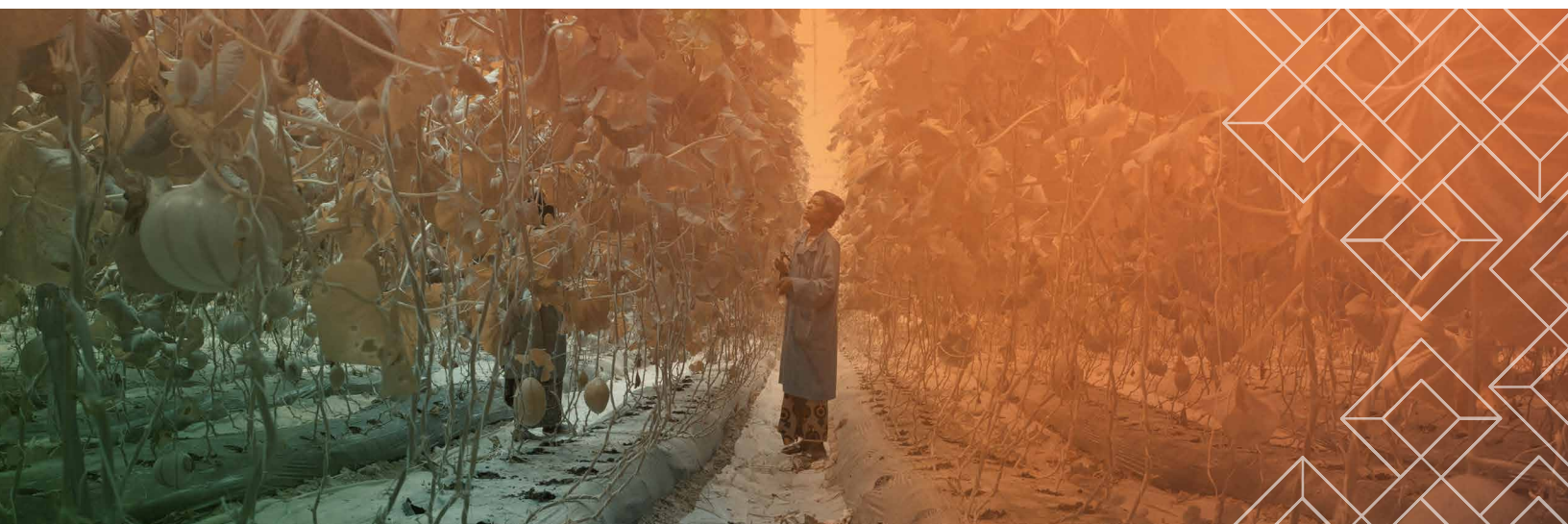
**A fourth component was added in FY23 to understand better the impacts safety nets can have on the broader economy and assess their impacts beyond their direct beneficiaries.** While evidence is available and growing on safety net programs' impact on the poverty and vulnerability of its beneficiaries, their productive capacity, and their children, less is known on impacts on the wider economy in the Sahel. Evidence from other regions suggests significant impacts, which contribute significantly to the overall return on these investments and help justify significant investments by governments and their partners. Estimates from countries in Eastern and Southern Africa suggest a multiplier of 1.2 to 2.4—meaning that each dollar invested results in an increase in the local economy of 1.2 to 2.4 dollars. Quantifying the impact of safety nets on the local economy and on the entire economy through the multiplier effect is extremely important in a context of economic deterioration to highlight that safety net systems are beneficial not only to beneficiaries but beyond. In FY23, the team initiated a literature review on the impact of the safety net program on the economy in the world and reviewed the methodologies which could be deployed in the Sahel. During FY24, the team will apply the methodology to calculate these multipliers and prepare advocacy material to support policy dialogue in the region.

**This component will also support the preparation of infographics, which summarize all evidence on safety net impacts in the Sahel.** The objective of these products will be to lay out the range of impacts programs have demonstrated—on beneficiary households themselves (short-term impacts on consumption and poverty as well as longer-term impacts on assets, savings, and productivity), future generations (through the human capital of their children), social cohesion, and the broader economy (see previous paragraph). These notes will also debunk myths that are held in the Sahel to put to rest some of the negative perceptions around these interventions. In FY24, the team will prepare a regional infographic summarizing the evidence from the region, as well as a series of country notes with more detailed data on each country.

TABLE 1

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

COMPONENT	FY23 ACTUAL ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS	FY24 PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS
<b>COMPONENT 1:</b> <b>Types of shocks and their impact on poverty</b>	Conducted analysis of the impact of drought on household welfare in Niger based on three household surveys (2011, 2014, and 2018) and tested for sensitivity of several drought indices (ongoing).	Prepare a vulnerability map for Niger at admin three level based on the estimated impact of drought on household consumption and might extend the analysis to another country.
	Completed literature review of the determinants of food insecurity.	
	Conducted analysis of the overlap between poverty and food insecurity at the household level (ongoing for Senegal and Niger and will be expanded to Chad and Mali once the data are available).	Overlap maps of poverty and food insecurity across the region to understand the extent to which poverty and food insecurity overlap geographically (all Sahel countries if data are available).
<b>COMPONENT 2:</b> <b>Timing of household and community responses to shocks</b>	Prepared a WB working paper version of the FY22 policy note on seasonality (ongoing) (including Senegal, Burkina Faso, Niger, and Mali).	Extend the analysis using a new household survey, which will expand the analysis to two agricultural years (all Sahel except Mauritania).
<b>COMPONENT 3:</b> <b>Mechanisms by which shocks affect households</b>	Finalized a policy note focusing on non-agricultural income sources across the Sahel (Chad, Niger, Mali, Senegal, Burkina Faso).	Assess the long-term impact of drought on children's health using DHS surveys (the country chosen for the analysis will be based on data availability), jointly with the team working on Human Capital.
<b>COMPONENT 4:</b> <b>Economic impact of safety nets</b>	Initiated a literature review of the existing evidence of the global impact of safety nets on the economy.	Quantify the impact of safety nets on the local economy and on the entire economy through the multiplier effect (country of analysis will be based on data availability).
	The team is in the process of reviewing potential methodologies for their application to the Sahel (ongoing).	
	Defined framework and format for the notes on impacts and myths about safety nets (completed).	Prepare notes on the Sahel and for each country that summarize the evidence on cash transfers impacts and present the key facts about the national safety net system (all countries will be covered).



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

The aim of the Climate Shock-Responsive Delivery Systems regional thematic area is to inform and support the design and development of shock-responsive programs and adaptive delivery systems in the Sahel. The thematic area is organized into four different components: (1) Designing shock-responsive social protection interventions, (2) Operational nuts and bolts of shock-responsive social protection, (3) Disaster risk financing for shock-responsive social protection, and (4) Creating evidence of the impact of shock-responsive social protection. During 2023, the thematic area supported analytical work and provision of just-in-time technical assistance to country task teams in designing shock response programs, strengthening the adaptive delivery systems, advancing discussions on disaster risk financing for shock-responsive social protection, and creating evidence of the impact of drought shock-response programs.

#### COMPONENT 1:

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

To optimize the proxy means test (PMT) models used to estimate consumption and inform beneficiary identification, testing of the potential for adoption of the SWIFT methodology in the Sahel was initiated by this component.

The Survey of Well-being via Instant and Frequent Tracking (SWIFT) methodology was developed by the World Bank's poverty team to estimate poverty through high-frequency phone surveys. The objective of this activity is to test its use for the targeting of social assistance programs. The approach offers two comparative advantages relative to classic PMT models. First, it substantially reduces the number of variables needed to estimate consumption (between eight and 15). As a result, it requires a shorter questionnaire, which reduces data collection costs and can allow for more frequent data collection for social registries. Second, SWIFT-based PMTs include both slow-changing poverty correlates (such as household size and dwelling conditions) as well as fast-changing poverty correlates (consumption of specific food and non-food items) that better capture changes in household well-being during economic downturns. As a result, the model is potentially better suited for shock response. During FY23, the SWIFT model was developed for Niger. Preliminary results show that SWIFT-based PMTs outperform classic PMTs in

terms of prediction accuracy with a shorter questionnaire. The approach is currently being considered to optimize the questionnaire and target the performance of the social registry (drawing lessons from a similar exercise in Togo). In FY24, following the validation of the model in Niger, the team will prepare a brief as part of the Niger country program and a broader policy note on the adequacy of SWIFT methodology for shock-responsive targeting during FY24.

**This component also supports efforts to improve the performance trigger mechanisms which can be used to activate drought-response programs.**

In FY23, with support from AXA Climate, this component supported assessments of the technical performance (ability to estimate the impact of droughts on crops) of satellite-based drought early warning indicators in Burkina Faso and Niger. In FY24, in Niger, the team will support the completion of the performance review, including the analysis of a crop prediction model currently operated by the regional AGRHYMET center. This will be complemented by a comprehensive review of the drought-response pilot program with the Government of Niger (including a review of the trigger mechanism, intervention modalities, procurement practices, targeting, and the collaboration framework with the World Food Programme [WFP] and United Nations Children's Fund [UNICEF]). In Burkina Faso, in FY24, the results will inform technical assistance provided to the country's early warning system unit to improve early warning capabilities and the data quality of the Cadre Harmonisé. With support from the Centre for Disaster Protection (CDP), the technical performance of different satellite-based drought early warning indicators will be analyzed in Chad and Mali as inputs to the technical assistance provided to the countries' early warning system units and potential early drought-response programs.

#### COMPONENT 2:

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

**During FY23, a note was prepared on dynamic social registries for ASP.** Building on FY22 work on the intake and registration of dynamic social registries, the note focused on the data structures and main cost drivers of data collection for social registries. In FY24, the technical note is expected to be disseminated as a part of a regional workshop on



social registries. In FY24, a follow-up note will focus on the deployment strategies for dynamic social registries in terms of the initial intake, on-demand, and administrator-driven updates.

**This component also initiated the assessment of the half-life of data for social registries.** This assessment can help inform the optimal updating frequency of social registries by determining the variability across time of household attributes (such as household composition, labor force participation, or exposure to natural disasters). It is an essential input into the planning of data collection. Socioeconomic datasets like EHCVM will be used to determine the expected rate of change of household attributes (or validity depreciation) to inform the point where its use may not be reliable enough for targeting and an update is needed. In FY24, the team will support this analysis in Niger and potentially in Senegal.

**A final element of the work on social registries was the development of a financial model to estimate the costs of data collection for social registries.** By identifying the fixed and variable data collection costs, the model can estimate the budget required to populate social registries and keep them up to date. The model was benchmarked using the cost of previous data collection exercises in Niger and Togo, and parameters will be further refined as data from other countries become available. The financial model allows the simulation of the cost of different scenarios based on the initial stock of data, coverage target, and minimum updating frequency. It was used to inform the data collection strategy of the social registry in Niger. The tool can help ensure social registries remain financially sustainable in the medium and long term. In FY24, a short note will be prepared on the financial model.

**Turning to payment systems, the Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP) provided support on the digitization of payments.** These elements, particularly in Niger and Burkina Faso, are reflected under the respective country sections.

**Finally, this component supported the translation of the Sourcebook on the Foundations of Social Protection Delivery Systems.** The French version was launched in May 2023 and addresses “how to” questions on the delivery of social protection benefits and services by synthesizing global knowledge, including lessons from Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger. The launch convened a panel of high-ranking

officials from Senegal, Morocco, and Madagascar, sharing experiences related to the deployment of social registries, payments platforms, and grievance redress mechanisms (GRMs), respectively.

### COMPONENT 3:

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

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**The third component focuses on financing for ASP.** This component has benefited from a new partnership, launched in FY23, with the CDP (with United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office [FCDO] financing), focused on disaster risk finance (DRF). The activities under this component include support to the development of early climate-response triggers, analyses of country DRF environments, and identification of potential country ASP financing options.

**In FY23, this component focused predominantly on Burkina Faso.** It supported a diagnostic of the structure and financial management of two national funds (the Fonds d'Appui à la Sécurité Alimentaire [FASA] and the Fonds National de Solidarité [FNS]), with a view to assessing their potential suitability as a financing vehicle for emergency cash transfers. In FY24, in collaboration with development partners, technical assistance will be provided to the FASA to strengthen its administrative processes and financial management. In FY23, in collaboration with the CDP, the component also supported a DRF diagnostic study for ASP which analyzed the country's exposure and vulnerability to shocks, took stock of existing ASP programs and country experience with DRF instruments, and provided recommendations on DRF instruments.

**Under this component, the team prepared a policy note, *Disaster Risk Financing: What it is and what it isn't for Adaptive Social Protection in the Sahel.*** The note takes stock of lessons learned on using DRF instruments for ASP in the Sahel, exploring five common myths in DRF and showing they do not or only partially apply in the Sahel. In particular, the note shows that DRF is not only about setting up financial instruments, that establishing DRF instruments might not be the most urgent priority for countries in the Sahel, that DRF does not reduce the need for donors to support countries in

responding to disasters, that the focus of DRF in the Sahel should not be on extreme climate events, and that the first step for countries is likely not to develop a comprehensive national DRF strategy.

**During FY24, the CDP will also support the thematic area in producing two regional outputs.** First, the CDP will work with the UK Government’s Actuary’s Department on developing a financial drought-response planning tool to enable the indicative costing of national drought-response programs. This tool will be based on and further improve the Excel costing tool developed in Niger in FY22, facilitate policy dialogue on trigger-based shock response in the region, and help plan financially for potential early response programs. A second regional piece will be a financial management evaluation of national contingency funds in the region that could be used to finance ASP. This evaluation would present the landscape and state of existing contingency funds and highlight improvements needed to ensure their suitability for financing ASP.

#### COMPONENT 4:

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

**This final component supports the evaluation of the relative effectiveness of different drought response intervention modalities.** In FY22, it supported the design of randomized controlled trials in collaboration with the World Bank Impact Evaluation team and Oxford University. In FY23, data collection and analysis were undertaken in Niger in FY23 to test three different modalities (the traditional shock response, an earlier response of equal duration, and an earlier response of longer duration—all responses providing the same total amounts to households). Preliminary results indicate the relative effectiveness of responding early. A similar evaluation is planned in Mauritania and Senegal, and its timing will depend on whether early drought indicators trigger a response in FY24. In FY24, full results for Niger and associated policy recommendations will be prepared and disseminated.

**TABLE 2**

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

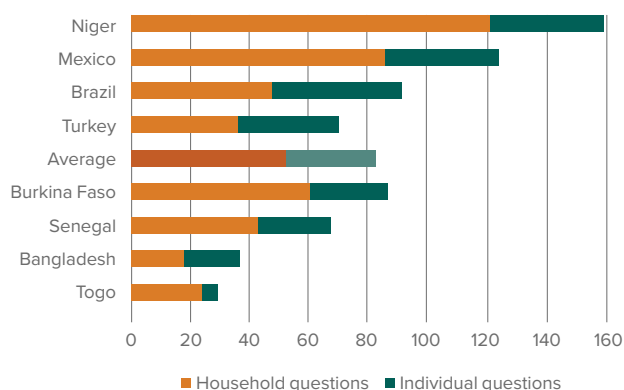
COMPONENT	FY23 ACTUAL ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS	FY24 PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS
<b>COMPONENT 1:</b> <b>Designing shock-responsive social protection interventions</b>	Tested the SWIFT methodology to optimize the PMT models.	Draft a policy note on the adequacy of SWIFT methodology for shock-responsive targeting.
	Assessed the technical performance of satellite-based drought early warning indicators in Burkina Faso and Niger.	Conduct technical performance evaluations of satellite-based drought early warning indicators in Mali and Chad.
<b>COMPONENT 2:</b> <b>Operational nuts and bolts of shock-responsive social protection</b>	French version of the Sourcebook on the Foundations of Social Protection Delivery Systems	
	Drafted note on dynamic social registries for adaptive social protection.	Host a regional workshop on social registries.
	Created a financial model estimating the costs of data collection for social registries developed.	Draft a note on deployment strategies for dynamic social registries.  Assess the half-life of data for social registries.
<b>COMPONENT 3:</b> <b>Disaster risk financing for shock-responsive social protection</b>	Carried out diagnostic study of the structure and financial management of two funds in Burkina Faso.	Draft financial drought response planning tool for Sahel countries.
	Conducted DRF diagnostic study for ASP in Burkina Faso.	Perform financial management evaluation of national contingency funds in the region that could be used to finance adaptive social protection.
	Drafted policy note on Disaster Risk Financing: What it is and what it isn’t for Adaptive Social Protection in the Sahel.	
<b>COMPONENT 4:</b> <b>Creating evidence of impact of shock-responsive social protection</b>	Collected data in Niger.	Evaluate results and policy recommendations in Niger  Potentially launch evaluations in Senegal and/or Mauritania.

## BOX 4 DYNAMIC SOCIAL REGISTRIES FOR ADAPTIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION

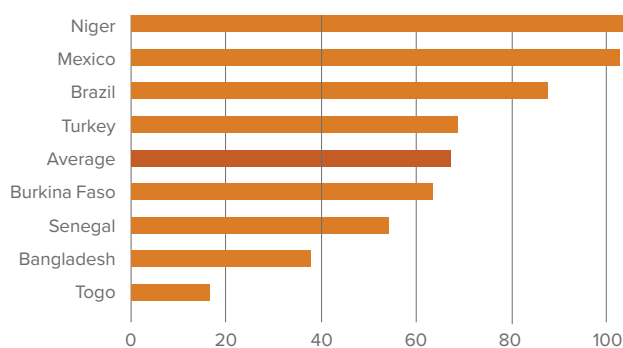
The consolidation of multiple socioeconomic questionnaires into a single harmonized questionnaire presupposes many efficiencies for households, programs, and the social registry administrator. In line with the principle of collecting data “only once,” harmonized questionnaires reduce the burden of data provision for households since they must only answer one questionnaire instead of many to be considered for multiple programs. The resulting harmonized questionnaire is often robust, capturing multiple welfare dimensions, yet lengthy since it serves the needs of many programs at once (see Figure 3). However, the length of the harmonized questionnaire directly impacts the cost of administering it to large numbers of households. The costs and logistics needed to deploy massive door-to-door sweeps or to set up registration points in local communities imply that lengthy harmonized questionnaires are not easy to update.

**FIGURE 3**

**Question count of harmonized questionnaire**



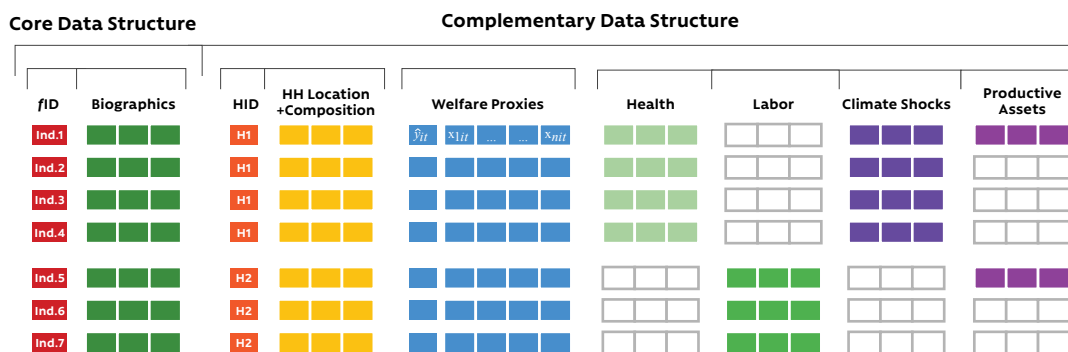
**Minutes per questionnaire (\* estimate)**



Hence, lengthy and monolithic data structures are not compatible with social registries that require frequent updates. To address this issue, harmonized socioeconomic questionnaires can be broken up into modular data structures that act as “data Lego blocks,” allowing dynamic social registries to intake as much data as needed for each program and thereby increasing the cost-efficiency of data management. As such, modular data structures can be divided into core data structures, which should be populated for all individuals and households in the dynamic social registry, and complementary data structures, which can be populated as needed depending on the specific requirements of each program served by the platform.

**FIGURE 4**

**Modular Data Structures**





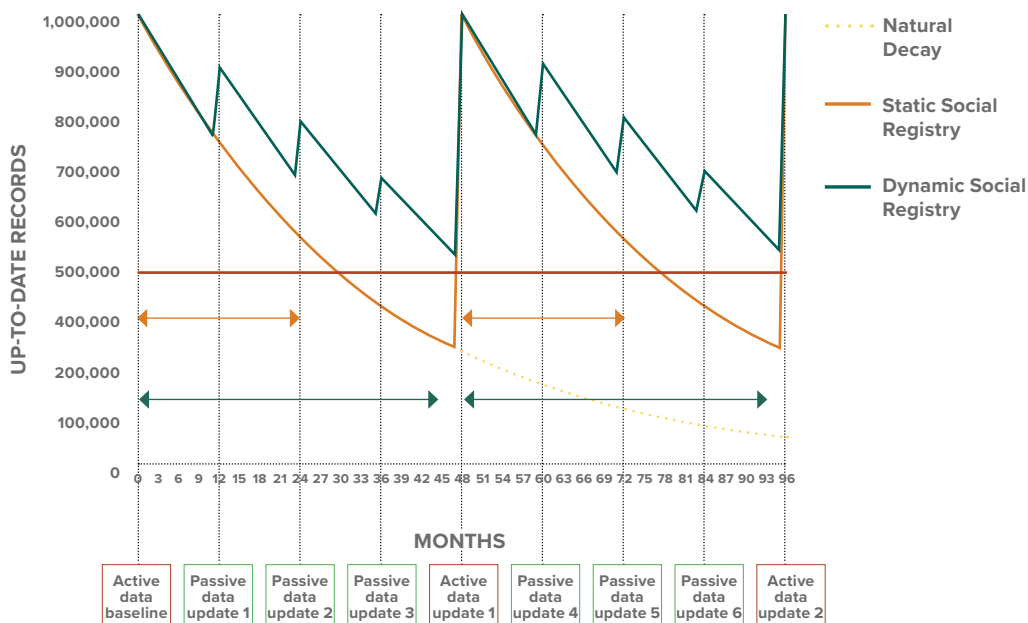
**BOX 4 CONTINUED**

Depending on the “half-life” of different variables, core and complementary data structures can be drawn from either active data, passive data, or a combination of both. For instance, changes to household composition are not frequent and can be drawn from self-reported data, while employment status changes more often and should be drawn from administrative records when available. Using modular data structures that combine actively and passively generated data can help to ensure that the dynamic social registry stays up to date by extending its data half-life.

**FIGURE 5**

**Extending the half-life by integrating active and passive data**

Total records: **1 MILLION**  
 Monthly decay rate: **2.8%**  
 Static Social Registry Half-life: **24 MONTHS**  
 Dynamic Social Registry Half-life: **45 MONTHS**



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

**Economic inclusion interventions can support poor households’ livelihoods and facilitate investments in income-generating activities.** Economic inclusion interventions are a core part of ASP. They provide an important pathway to strengthen food security, resilience to climatic shocks, and climate adaptation by allowing households to diversify their economic activities, save, and accumulate assets. The economic inclusion packages—which include group training and coaching; community-based savings groups; community outreach on social norms and aspirations; life skills training; training in micro-entrepreneurship; market access; and cash grants—are not only aimed at increasing the productivity and incomes but also at supporting income smoothing and diversification (both within and across sectors)

and at helping households cope with climatic risks and shocks. This thematic pillar builds on global knowledge and aims to increase understanding of the design and implementation of economic inclusion interventions that are adapted to the Sahel and implemented by governments (with a view to ensuring their potential for large-scale deployment). It focuses on building resilience to the impacts of climate change and emphasizes women’s empowerment. The pillar is organized around three components in an effort to develop this Sahel-specific expertise: The first component focuses on evaluating the impact and effectiveness of government-implemented productive inclusion interventions in the region. The second component focuses on generating region-specific operational learning and implementation lessons. The third component is dedicated to supporting policy dialogue and just-in-time technical assistance to governments in the region.

**COMPONENT 1:**

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

In FY23, and in close collaboration with Development Impact Evaluation department, the Africa Gender Innovation Lab, and IPA, the regional activity produced the first results from the impact evaluations of the productive inclusion packages in Chad, Senegal, Mauritania, and Burkina Faso. These results, together with those from Niger produced in FY22, demonstrate the effectiveness of productive inclusion measures delivered through adaptive social protection systems across the Sahel. Indeed, the multi-country evaluation has demonstrated the substantial impacts of programs on economic indicators (including investments, savings, or income-generating activities), diversification of economic activities, and resilience to climate shocks. The large magnitude of the impacts makes these interventions highly cost-effective, with impacts on beneficiary household consumption at least 1.2 to 2.1 times higher than costs, making a clear case for investment. The evaluations also provided evidence on the strong added value of the psychosocial

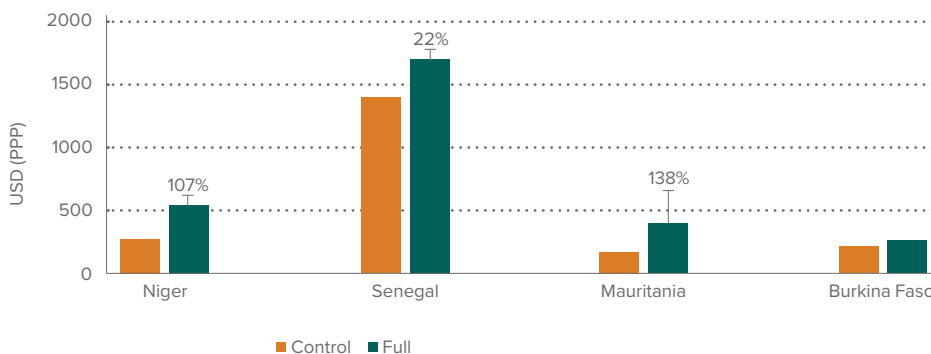
components. Lastly, impacts on psychological well-being, social cohesion, and women’s empowerment were also observed in different contexts (Box 5 for more details).

In FY24, the team plans to finalize the analysis from Senegal, Mauritania, Burkina Faso, and Chad and publish the results. The team will also assess the longer-term impacts of programs in Niger and Senegal based on the follow-up surveys collected in both countries. Additional analysis will also be undertaken to understand the profile of households who benefit the most from different types of packages, the mechanisms that explain the impacts of psychosocial components in Niger, and the pathways toward longer-term impact. These additional insights will help refine scale-up strategies across countries. The datasets from the impact evaluations, cleaned during FY23, will be published to facilitate additional research beyond the team. Additional follow-up surveys are under consideration (but the funding has not yet been secured) to measure long-term impacts in Mauritania and Burkina Faso, as well as document scale-up effectiveness in Senegal.

**BOX 5 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS OF PRODUCTIVE INCLUSION INTERVENTIONS IN THE SAHEL**

The productive measures have had substantial impacts on economic indicators such as consumption, food security, investments, savings, or income from women’s income-generating activities. Productive measures helped households to diversify their economic activities. Investments in non-agricultural income-generating activities led to strong income growth (Figure 6). Diversifying activities away from solely agriculture has also helped women build their resilience to climate shocks, as non-farm incomes are generally less exposed to climate risks than agricultural production. Positive impacts on non-beneficiaries were also observed in Chad, which shows that productive inclusion measures also have broader benefits for the local economy.

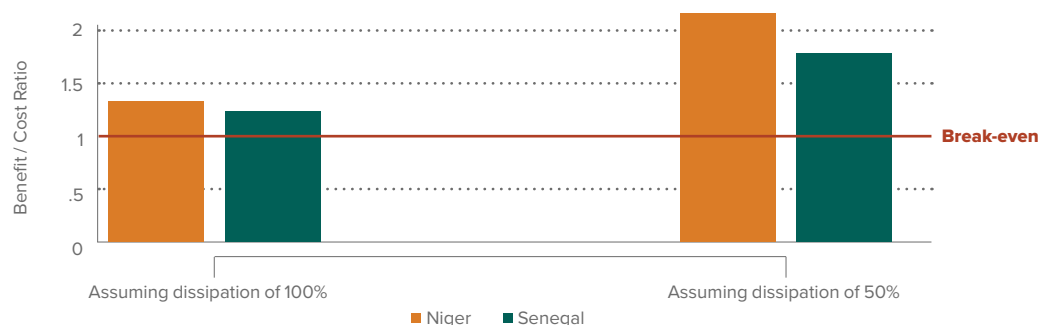
**FIGURE 6**  
Yearly revenues from beneficiary’s off-farm business (1.5 years after program ended)



## BOX 5 CONTINUED

**The productive packages had impacts of a large magnitude, making them highly cost-effective.** For example, in Niger and Senegal, the productive inclusion packages increased consumption 18 months after beneficiaries exited the program by amounts already larger than program costs. In fact, impacts on beneficiary household consumption were at least 1.2 to 2.1 times higher than costs, demonstrating strong economic returns and making a clear case for investment.

**FIGURE 7**  
Benefit-cost ratios in Niger and Senegal



**Impact evaluations also provided evidence on optimizing the productive inclusion package, which is critical to maximizing impacts as well as reaching as many households as possible at a given budget.** The psychosocial components had a strong added value in increasing economic impacts in rural contexts in Niger and Mauritania. In addition, the benefit-cost ratios were particularly strong for packages with psychosocial components in Niger and Senegal. This shows that it is not only the cash grants and economic interventions that drive impacts. Rather, it highlights the importance of addressing both psychosocial constraints as well as financial constraints faced by the poorest households in order to boost their productivity and livelihoods. Differences between contexts also emerged, showing the importance of tailoring the productive inclusion package in some contexts. For example, in conflict-affected areas of Burkina Faso, the impacts on savings were found to be greater than the impacts on investments, and the psychosocial components had a lower contribution to overall impacts.

**Lastly, impacts on psychological well-being, social cohesion, or women's empowerment were observed in different contexts.** At the individual level, recipients experienced improved mental health and a stronger sense of social value. They also indicated that they had more confidence in their community. At the community level, the program improved attitudes toward gender, leading to more positive perceptions of women's economic participation. Women reported having greater decision-making power over their resources. Some nuances in these effects between contexts emerged. For example, the increase in psychological and social well-being was more marked in rural areas, particularly in Niger.





**COMPONENT 2:****Operational learning and implementation lessons**

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**This component aims at drawing operational lessons from the implementation of the programs in the five countries, building on the variety of approaches deployed.** In FY23, a regional technical workshop gathered representatives from the governments, WB technical teams, and development partners to synthesize the operational lessons programs implemented through national social protection systems across the six countries. The compilation of lessons was particularly timely in view of the demand from governments to scale up and strengthen the productive inclusion component of cash transfer programs. In addition to the dissemination of these operational lessons during a Partnership for Economic Inclusion event in April 2023, a series of technical notes will be produced and widely disseminated in FY24.

**A series of operational lessons were drawn, along the following key topics:** (1) Various delivery arrangements can be used, depending on the local capacity to implement various components of the package; (2) a strong coordination mechanism and solid monitoring system is critical to organize the sequence of field activities; (3) while the components were well adapted to the socio-economic context and prompted a high participation, suggestions were made to improve the components, including simplifying and standardizing implementation tools, leveraging technology (tablets, videos, mobile payment systems), diversifying content for more customization to different needs of beneficiaries, and building bridges with other programs in the areas of implementation; (4) key considerations for effective implementation and cost-effectiveness include the selection of frontline delivery agents and the ratio of provider to beneficiaries, since involving skilled personnel improves quality but may pose recruitment challenges and come to the detriment of proximity and sustainability.

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

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**Building on the implementation support, operational learning, and impact evidence supported by the WB team, countries have decided to scale productive inclusion measures throughout the Sahel.** While the productive inclusion measure supported in the first phase reached 73,000 households, scale-up is now underway to reach over 300,000 households (125,000 in Senegal, 120,000 in Niger, and 60,000 in Chad). This component has provided hands-on technical assistance to Senegal and Chad for this effort, focusing on the design of the program and establishment of delivery systems.

**In FY23, this component has also continued a strong global outreach by presenting impact evidence and implementation lessons to global audiences, for instance,** through a dedicated Open House organized by the Partnership for Economic Inclusion; a global conference on graduation programs organized by Trinity College Dublin; the World Bank impact week; and presentations for World Bank Country Management teams, technical counterparts, WFP, and donors. This has continued to make the SASPP a key reference point for practitioners working on productive inclusion programs around the world. New communication material was developed for greater dissemination, including a new version of the webpage and a series of short videos documenting the impacts of the programs on the beneficiaries and their communities. In FY24, this component will continue the dissemination of results from components 1 and 2 and the provision of on-demand technical assistance to governments.

**Early in FY24, the team will identify whether new topics emerging from the first phase require additional focus under the different pillars.** These could include, among others, understanding the program's effectiveness at scale and its spillover effects. It could also include understanding the heterogeneity of impacts on different types of beneficiaries and tailoring packages to specific groups (including youth, women, urban poor, displaced people and host communities, and people with disabilities). Finally, it could focus on additional options to maximize impacts on climate adaptation and mitigation.

TABLE 3

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

COMPONENT	FY23 ACTUAL ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS	FY24 PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS
<b>COMPONENT 1:</b> <b>Multi-country impact evaluation on the effectiveness of productive inclusion packages</b>	Presented impact evaluation results from Senegal, Mauritania, and Burkina Faso to national and regional counterparts.	Publish and disseminate results from Senegal, Mauritania, and Burkina Faso.  Perform additional analysis to understand the profile of households that benefit the most from different types of packages to refine scale-up strategies further.
	Presented impact evaluation results from Chad to national and regional counterparts.	Publish and disseminate the impact evaluation results from Chad.
	Collected long-term follow-up survey in Niger.	Conduct analysis on psychosocial mechanisms, gender targeting, and long-term impacts in Niger.
	Cleaned datasets from Senegal, Mauritania, Burkina Faso, and Chad.	File datasets from all countries in World Bank micro catalog.
<b>COMPONENT 2:</b> <b>Operational learning and implementation lessons</b>	Organized regional technical workshop to synthesize operational lessons.  The findings from the regional workshop were shared widely with practitioners in the region.	Publish and disseminate a series of operational notes to synthesize key lessons and inform future productive inclusion programs.  Collect operational lessons from scaled-up operations for future analysis and dissemination.
	<b>COMPONENT 3:</b> <b>Policy dialogue, dissemination, and just-in-time technical assistance</b>	Provided technical assistance to scaled-up programs in Senegal and Chad, focusing on the design of the program and establishment of delivery systems.
Conducted outreach through multiple channels (events, webpage, videos, and so on).		Continue to disseminate results from Components 1 and 2.

### 3.4 PILLAR D: FRAGILITY AND FORCED DISPLACEMENT

**This thematic area aims to support Governments' social protection programs and systems in navigating fragility and forced displacement in the Sahel.** Four of the six Sahel countries are considered fragility, conflict, and violence (FCV) countries, while all six host refugees or internally displaced people (IDPs). It is estimated that by 2030, globally, nearly two-thirds of the poor could be living in FCV settings, a reality already present in the Sahel. Increasing conflict and fragility in the Sahel have their roots in political and governance weaknesses, economic and social factors, and a worsening climate crisis. Delivering ASP in fragile and conflict contexts is operationally more challenging than in stable ones and calls for adaptations in order to succeed. Conflict, forced displacement, and internal mobility also affect the potential impact of interventions. This thematic area seeks to increase

knowledge on the role and impact of social protection on peace, operational solutions to adapt ASP delivery FCV and to people forcibly displaced or migrant populations, and coordination between humanitarian and development actors.

**Increasing our knowledge on FCV and forcibly displaced populations is imperative, given the growing insecurity in the Sahel.** The WBG has committed to working in FCV countries. Achieving its twin goals would not be possible without engaging in the most fragile countries, among them the Sahel countries. Hence, it is critical to find ways to build ASP systems and deliver services even in fragile contexts and for the most vulnerable. It is essential that teams are equipped to face the challenges of working in FCV and with displaced population groups and to integrate mitigation measures at the outset. This can include working with humanitarian partners and must also include

measures to ensure interventions are not contributing to worsening conditions. To date, evidence shows that ASP can improve social cohesion, but more knowledge is needed to understand how social cohesion and violence are impacted and under what circumstances. Finally, the increasing number of forcibly displaced population groups and the important internal population movements call for specific, deliberate approaches to provide them with benefits and services as part of national systems.

**This pillar was expanded from three to five components to include an operational focus on forced displacement and internal migrants in FY23:**

- 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 explores approaches to ensure the delivery of ASP programs is adaptive to fragile environments.
- 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. Making operations fit for forced displacement [NEW]:** This component identifies design options for refugee-inclusive operations and for linking humanitarian assistance and government-led systems in settings affected by forced displacement.
- 5. Adapting design and implementation to population mobility [NEW]:** This component seeks to identify options to adapt the design and implementation of ASP programs to mobile individuals/populations.

## COMPONENT 1:

### A theory of change from social protection to peace

**In FY23, the team completed the qualitative analysis of the link between social protection and fragility in Burkina Faso and finalized the data collection in Cameroon.** Burkina Faso and Cameroon were selected for their similar programs and comparable conflict dynamics. In addition, the difficulty of undertaking qualitative research in Mali and Niger impeded their selection. The qualitative research aims to understand better the role and impact of social protection on the dynamics of fragility, social cohesion, and citizens' perceptions of the state, along with beneficiaries' experience of insecurity. In FY23, the team prepared a summary of findings from Burkina Faso (based on data collected in FY22) and Cameroon (based on data collected in FY23 with over 200 beneficiaries, non-beneficiaries, and local leaders), which provides operational recommendations (for instance, improvements to make the economic inclusion activities more adaptive to insecurity) to present to the Burkina Faso government. The research revealed that, even in a fragile context, safety nets can foster community relations and increase households' ability to help each other. Beneficiaries were able to contribute to community assets, help their neighbors and even meet new people through the process. The team will produce a report in FY24 to present findings from the two studies and highlight implications for ASP engagements.

**In FY23, a new analytical activity was launched to provide a framework on pathways through which ASP can impact social cohesion and peace.** While the role of ASP on resilience, productivity, and human capital has been thoroughly explored, there is limited evidence of its impact on conflict, fragility, and social cohesion. Current evidence suggests that ASP can have a positive impact on social cohesion, when done right, by improving social relations by decreasing inequality, promoting redistribution, and supporting investment in community projects, among others. Communication around SP to communities has been demonstrated to be essential to ensure improved cohesion and limit any negative externalities. To deepen the knowledge and identify gaps in knowledge, the team has planned a review of the literature that will provide inputs for a framework on pathways for SP impact on social cohesion and conflict (planned for FY24).



## BOX 6 PRELIMINARY FINDINGS FROM RESEARCH IN BURKINA FASO AND CAMEROON

Research from Burkina Faso and Cameroon provided preliminary insight into how insecurity shapes the role and impact of cash transfers. Over 370 in-depth interviews were conducted with beneficiaries, non-beneficiaries, and community leaders across multiple sites in both countries. Several dimensions were explored, including the use of cash, impact on social cohesion, and perception toward the government.

**Conflict impedes the maximization of cash transfer benefits:** Cash transfers in the context of high fragility and insecurity make a difference in people’s day-to-day lives. They allow households to fulfill their basic needs and reduce reliance on negative coping strategies. However, households also appear less likely to invest in assets or income-generating activities. This reluctance to invest increases with the level of insecurity, given the risk of theft and attacks by armed groups and bandits. In areas with lesser insecurity or which hadn’t been as affected by insecurity, beneficiaries were much more positive about the future and were much more likely to have invested in cash transfers.

**Cash transfers can contribute to improved relations in communities, even in such volatile contexts, but they are dependent on program implementation:** The program enables new social relationships and bonds to form as beneficiaries meet other beneficiaries they wouldn’t have otherwise met. These relationships tend to last beyond the program duration. In addition, the cash transfers enable beneficiaries to contribute to community assets, inspiring a collective feeling of well-being. Finally, beneficiaries (particularly refugees in our samples) share their cash with their neighbors and friends. Strong communication and transparency are required to ensure these positive outcomes. In communities where there was more mistrust of the targeting process and where communications regarding the cash transfers weren’t as strong, jealousy and resentment between beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries were more pronounced. This led to the perception by some beneficiaries that non-beneficiaries raised prices on them or even put “spells” on them.

**Beneficiaries tend to have a better perception of government than non-beneficiaries:** When beneficiaries were aware that the government was responsible for the transfer, their perception toward it improved, and their expectations in terms of basic service provision increased. In contrast, non-beneficiaries tended to be more negative about the government. More importantly, they also had lower expectations and believed they had to be more self-reliant to access basic services. Non-beneficiaries were also more focused on just wanting the government to provide security—a concern for beneficiaries as well but not the sole concern.

### COMPONENT 2:

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

**Five cases were studied to inform the Guidebook on ASP operations in FCV, planned for FY24.** This component seeks to identify operational options to adapt ASP programs and systems to insecure and FCV contexts to minimize interruptions in the delivery of services and benefits. The component includes the development of case studies and country notes to complement the emerging knowledge on the subject. In FY22, the case study on safety net adaptations to

fragility and insecurity in the Democratic Republic of Congo was published as a WB Discussion Paper. In FY23, the team analyzed the cases of Mali and Somalia and expanded analysis to South Sudan and Yemen. Overall, four country notes were produced based on a review of literature, project documents, and interviews with WB country teams and key informants. These notes document the adaptations adopted in response to changing levels of fragility and insecurity. In FY24, the team will work with the WB FCV group to bring together these elements into a guidebook aimed at offering operational

guidance on how to adapt the design and implementation of safety net operations to FCV and insecurity. The team will also work on the dissemination of the guidebook and, more specifically, on training country teams on the operational corporate guidance on working in FCV.

### COMPONENT 3:

#### Humanitarian assistance and national social protection linkages

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**The analysis of the policy, operational opportunities, and challenges of aligning humanitarian social assistance with national ASP systems was completed in FY23.** Country-level research and consultations were conducted across the six SASPP countries in FY21 and FY22. A flagship report synthesizes the findings across the six case studies and presents the situation of convergence between humanitarian social assistance and national ASP systems in the Sahel. It focuses on identifying the enablers and barriers to convergence to allow governments, development actors, and humanitarian actors to work together to overcome them and create more convergence where possible. The report also presents what aspects of the delivery chain are most contentious. The report was completed and disseminated throughout FY23, including with humanitarian partners (WFP and UNICEF), with the objective of strengthening the dialogue on convergence. The report was also presented to donors, emphasizing the importance of their role in this agenda. A policy note summarizing the report was also produced to increase accessibility to the report findings. The report and policy note will be used to advocate for greater coordination and convergence between actors in the Sahel.

### COMPONENT 4:

#### Making operations fit for forced displacement

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**This new component, launched in FY23, focuses on the challenges of integrating refugees and IDPs in national ASP systems.** To better inform ASP in the context of refugees and IDPs, this component has three elements: (1) understanding forced displacement in the Sahel, (2) understanding the support the displaced receive and the gaps in services, and (3) identifying options for ASP to serve the displaced. During FY23, the team undertook an analysis of the context and an assessment of the drivers of forced displacement in the Sahel as well as a stock-taking exercise of the services and

programs available to refugees and IDPs. The team also took stock of active social protection refugee operations and humanitarian interventions in the Sahel and West Africa and reviewed how these projects have designed different elements of the service delivery chain of safety nets, in particular regarding the inclusion of refugees. The analysis also documented the context in which each operation takes place, regarding government policy, degree of fragility and violence, the socioeconomic structure of the country, and any other contextual characteristics that can become drivers of operation design. On this basis, the team will develop a note identifying the existing services and potential gaps as they relate to social protection in FY24. This will look at the needs of refugees, their challenges and constraints, and what they currently benefit from.

**In FY24, the team will launch the work on the guidelines on integrating or providing services to refugees and IDPs into WB operations and hence national systems.** Based on the identified gaps and services delivered, the team will gather best practice experiences on the integration of refugees and IDPs into national systems. This will not only consider what services to offer and under what conditions but also how to adapt the delivery chain to the realities of camps and moving populations.

### COMPONENT 5:

#### Adapting design and implementation to population mobility

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**This new component, launched in FY23, seeks to identify options to adapt the design and implementation of ASP programs to mobile individuals/populations.** Following the various stages of the ASP program delivery chain, the component will seek to identify options for programs to ensure internal migrants are not excluded and to maximize the relevance and impact of programs to their needs. This is critical to building the resilience of households to future climate shocks, as population mobility is one of the mechanisms deployed to build resilience or cope with the consequences of shocks. The component was defined in FY23 and key tasks were launched, but the products are expected to be finalized in FY24/FY24.

**This component is organized around five connected activities to be implemented in FY24/25.** First, the team will prepare a note reviewing the features of social protection programs that make them responsive to, and supportive of, internal population movements. This will draw global best practices (focusing on low- and lower-middle-income country experience) around a range of programs, including safety net programs, cash-plus programs, economic inclusion, labor-intensive public works, youth employment/skills training, public employment services, and school feeding. Based on this review, the team will then develop a tool to assess the mobility sensitivity of ASP programs. Third, the team will

support a rapid analysis of the scale, forms, and features of internal population movements in the Sahel to better understand their needs and the potential role ASP programs can play. Fourth, current design and implementation gaps in the Sahel will be assessed by applying the tool to a range of programs in the region and contrasting program features with regional needs. Finally, in FY25, a guidance note will propose a menu of reform measures that could help overcome design and implementation challenges that mobile populations face in benefitting from ASP programs in the Sahel, distinguishing between quick wins that can be achieved with simple adjustments and more structural reforms.

**TABLE 4****Summary activities and outputs for Fragility and Forced Displacement Pillar**

COMPONENT	FY23 ACTUAL ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS	FY24 PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS
<b>COMPONENT 1:</b> <b>A theory of change from social protection to peace</b>	Completed country summary on Burkina Faso. Collected and analyzed data in Cameroon.	Prepare and disseminate summary report on findings from the two studies.
	Launched literature review on the role of social protection in conflict, violence, and social cohesion.	Complete literature review and prepare framework on pathways for SP impacts on social cohesion and violence.
<b>COMPONENT 2:</b> <b>Adapting ASP programs and systems to delivery in fragility, conflict, and violence (FCV)</b>	Drafted country notes on Mali, Somalia, South Sudan, and Yemen.	Finalize and disseminate operational guidebook.
	Prepared working paper on the Democratic Republic of Congo (FY22).	
<b>COMPONENT 3:</b> <b>Humanitarian Assistance and National Social Protection Linkages</b>	Finalized and disseminated flagship report. Prepared policy note on key findings.	Further disseminate findings to inform country-level convergence efforts.
<b>COMPONENT 4:</b> <b>Making operations fit for forced displacement [added in FY23]</b>	Reviewed legal and policy environment regarding refugees and IDPs.	Draft note on the current state/landscape of refugees and IDPs in the Sahel. Prepare operational guidelines for the inclusion of refugees and IDPs into national systems.
	Completed stock-taking of services provided to refugees by governments and INGOs in the Sahel.	
<b>COMPONENT 5:</b> <b>Adapting design and implementation to population mobility [added in FY23]</b>	Conducted preparatory work.	Draft note on features of ASP programs that make them responsive to internal population movements.
		Implement tool to assess the mobility-sensitivity of ASP programs.
		Carry out rapid analysis of the scale, forms, and features of internal population movements in the Sahel.
		Assess current design and implementation gaps in the Sahel.



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

The objective of this pillar is to inform the design and implementation of human capital interventions in the Sahel focused on both enhancing investments and protecting households from divestments in the face of increasingly frequent and severe climate shocks. Several of the national safety net programs in the Sahel include human capital interventions, mostly in the form of accompanying measures, and this pillar aims at understanding how these interventions could be enhanced to strengthen and protect human capital in the Sahel. This is essential to ensure that ASP programs—in addition to providing consumption support, strengthening resilience, and promoting productive inclusion—also enable households to break the intergenerational transmission of poverty. This, in turn, would boost the productivity of future generations and improve their future resilience to shocks. The pillar focuses on three efforts: (1) strengthening our understanding of the linkages between climate shocks and human capital and of the local drivers of human capital deficits in the Sahel, (2) informing the design of interventions to strengthen investments in human capital in a shock-prone environment, and (3) understanding what can be done to protect existing investments in human capital in a shock-prone environment.

#### COMPONENT 1:

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

In FY23, building on global evidence of the impact of shocks on mental health, this component investigated how poor parental mental health can have impacts on childhood outcomes. The Sahel faces frequent and severe (climate and conflict) shocks, which impact mental health and are expected to have long-lasting impacts on children's outcomes. To address a gap in knowledge and research on this channel of the impact of shocks, which is under-researched in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), the team analyzed the intergenerational impacts of parental mental health and parental stress. The analysis, described further in Box 7, shows the detrimental impacts of parental depression, anxiety, and stress (the most common mental health conditions globally and in sub-Saharan Africa). In early childhood, parental stress and mental illness can translate into parenting disruptions and, ultimately, impairments to child development and health. Evidence suggests that parental stress and the associated parenting disruptions impact social, behavioral, and psychological outcomes in children. The analysis also reviews mental health and psychosocial measures, which have been shown to improve parental stress and mental health in LMICs. It focuses on measures that can be administered by lay people, which is crucial to their integration into existing human capital-focused accompanying measures in ASP programs in the Sahel since the region suffers from a scarcity of mental health workers.



## BOX 7 BUILDING INDIVIDUAL RESILIENCE OF PARENTS TO SHOCKS

**Parental stress and the associated parenting disruptions have intergenerational effects by impacting social, behavioral, and psychological outcomes in children.** The WHO estimates that in Africa, depressive disorders affect 6 percent of women and 5 percent of men, and 4 percent of women and 2 percent of men have anxiety disorders. However, the issue of parental mental health has received little attention in Sub-Saharan Africa. This lack of attention is an issue for adaptive social protection as the vicious cycle between poverty and ill-mental health further exacerbates mental health conditions.

**Given the dearth of mental health workers (in Africa, the median is 1.6 mental health workers per 100,000 people), promising innovations across the continent are now exploring ways to deliver interventions through lay workers.** Experience from other Sub-Saharan African countries (Zimbabwe, Uganda) has shown that providing psychotherapy to individuals with mild or moderate anxiety and depression can significantly improve their mental health, and this can be done in low-capacity settings in a cost-effective way.

**Adaptive social protection is well suited to building the individual resilience of parents to shocks, given its direct links to the poorest and most vulnerable households.** The adaptive social protection delivery systems are set up to provide human development accompanying measures directly to households, in many cases, to parents. These delivery mechanisms offer a promising platform to (1) provide caregivers solutions to cope with stress in conjunction with parenting interventions (which are already part of the human development accompanying measures); (2) offer information aimed at countering the stigma associated with mental health issues; and (3) pilot additional modules to alleviate parental stress, thereby decreasing children's exposure to toxic stress and supporting their cognitive and socio-emotional development.

**The second area of focus in FY23 was on identifying early childhood development interventions that can be integrated into ASP systems in the Sahel.** The objective is to identify options to strengthen further the content and delivery of human capital-focused accompanying measures in the Sahel. As part of this area, a stock-take of early childhood development services included in World Bank operations in LMICs highlighted three lessons: First, community-based interventions are among the most effective way to deliver such interventions (working with existing community structures). Second, strengthening the engagement of local government and creating a sense of ownership of community-based programs is essential to sustainability. Third, modern mass media can play an important role in improving the effectiveness of behavioral change communication. The team also reviewed the type of early childhood development interventions available in the Sahel, their delivery mechanism, and contents. Finally, the team reviewed interventions that provide cognitive

stimulation to improve development among children and reviewed how they could be incorporated into existing social protection programs. These three elements generated a strong knowledge basis upon which ASP programs could maximize their impact on children.

**A third area of focus in FY23 was the finalization of the analysis of the potential for nutritional supplements.** Building on FY22 work, the team finalized a note identifying options for small-quantity lipid-based nutrient supplements nutritional supplements (SQ-LNS) to effectively be used in the Sahel to prevent malnutrition in highly vulnerable populations.

**In FY24, the team will primarily focus on sharing key findings from the analysis with operational teams in the Sahel and beyond and using these in specific interventions under Component 2.**

## COMPONENT 2:

### Strengthening investments in human capital in a shock-prone environment

**In FY24, building in part on the knowledge produced under Component 1, this component will focus on identifying modifications to existing interventions that can strengthen investments in human capital in shock-prone environments.** As described below, this will include testing a parental stress intervention in Senegal, supporting the revision of the content and delivery of the human-capital-focused accompanying measures in Senegal and Niger, identifying options to tackle household air pollution and its effect on childhood malnutrition in Niger, and supporting a cross-sectoral collaboration to enable the distribution of nutritional supplements in Burkina Faso.

**Based on findings on parental stress from Component 1, the team will pilot an intervention to support parental resilience in Senegal.** The team will design and pilot an intervention to support parental resilience. This is expected in turn to increase the impact of the safety net program on childhood outcomes due to better parent-child interactions. It is also expected to increase households' ability to face climate, conflict or other shocks by strengthening their adaptive capacity. This effort will be led in collaboration with colleagues from the Health, Nutrition and Population Global Practice and external partners in the design of the intervention. The effort will include fielding a brief survey to assess levels of parental stress among beneficiaries, designing a module that can be delivered by lay persons in a community setting, and testing the module in FY24 or FY25, depending on operational feasibility.

**In FY24, the team will also support the revision of accompanying measures to deepen their impacts on child outcomes.** In Senegal, the team will support the ongoing revision in terms of content, frequency, and delivery mechanisms (this will be done jointly with the pilot to strengthen parental resilience mentioned above). In Niger, the team will support a process evaluation to investigate current delivery mechanisms and potentially integrate behavioral messaging.

**This component will also support cross-sectoral collaboration to tackle household air pollution and its detrimental effect on childhood malnutrition.** This focus builds on the FY22 findings on the critical detrimental role of indoor air pollution on malnutrition, presented in the FY22 annual report. In collaboration with the Energy and Extractives, Health, Nutrition and Population, and Climate Change Global Practices, the team will conduct qualitative work in Niger to understand the context-specific constraints to clean cooking among safety net beneficiaries. Depending on the findings, two approaches might be possible to support improvements among households: A first approach would consist of using the social registry to target households who would benefit from the distribution of subsidized clean cookstoves (the social registry would play its role of entry point for cookstove programs). A second approach would consist of adding behavioral messaging on clean cooking as part of the safety net program accompanying measures.

**The pillar also supports an evaluation focused on understanding the differentiated effects of providing transfers and income-generating activities to men or women.** This analysis, also included under the Mali section of the report, highlighted that labeling cash for household welfare increases the acceptability of making a woman the recipient. Also, even if female recipients often handed out most of the cash to their husbands, they were more likely to be involved in decision-making about the use of the funds and general household expenditures (while when transfers are given to a man, his wife is not involved in its allocation). However, the analysis also confirmed that providing resources is not sufficient to empower women: While they were responsible for deciding a larger share of money, women in households with a female beneficiary were also more likely to agree with the statement that men should be solely in charge of decision-making in the household. The presumed mechanism is that women face very strong social norms and constraints. Also, the analysis shows no impact on the measure of intimate partner violence, consistent with the fact that the intervention only changed the nominal recipient. The team will further disseminate the findings and their implications that interventions need to address further constraints (such as the context or social norms) to affect women's empowerment. In FY24, the team will finalize the analysis and publish the findings in the SASPP technical paper series.



Finally, a collaboration with the Health, Nutrition and Population Global Practice is underway in Burkina Faso to test the distribution of nutritional supplements to safety net beneficiaries. This builds on evidence produced in FY22 on the ability of SQ-LNS to prevent malnutrition in highly vulnerable populations. The Health, Nutrition and Population Global Practice currently supports the distribution of locally produced SQ-LNS in Burkina Faso, and the team is aiming to set up a collaboration to pilot the distribution of SQ-LNS to children of safety net beneficiaries in FY24.

### COMPONENT 3:

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

Component 3 focuses on gathering evidence on the timing of interventions in ASP systems to understand how existing human capital can best be protected when climate shocks occur. Work under this component is closely connected to impact evaluations planned under the

shock-response pillar. Building on these impact evaluations, the team proposes to study the effect of the timing of shock-response cash transfers on human capital accumulation and preservation. The component will complement the planned impact evaluations (focusing on quantitative indicators of child malnutrition) with a qualitative analysis to understand how the timing of transfers affects household consumption, women's control over resources, and their potential implication for women's empowerment and childhood human capital. In FY23, the team undertook an analysis based on the baseline and midline surveys of the impact evaluation in Niger. The shock-response intervention was not triggered in Mauritania and Senegal in FY23 because of the food insecurity situation. As a result, for Mauritania and Senegal, baselines are scheduled for December 2023. In FY24, the team will focus on the analysis of the quantitative surveys, as well as the qualitative studies planned for spring 2024 in both countries.



TABLE 5

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

COMPONENT	FY23 ACTUAL ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS	FY24 PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS
<b>COMPONENT 1:</b> <b>Linkages between climate shocks and human capital in the Sahel</b>	Analyzed the intergenerational impacts of parental stress on early childhood development, with a focus on parental mental health on children, and reviewed measures which have been or could be applied in the Sahel.	Disseminate findings and use to design interventions under Component 2.
	Took stock of early childhood development services in World Bank operations in LMICs and key lessons for potential implementation in the Sahel. Assessed early childhood development services available in the Sahel. Reviewed interventions that provide cognitive stimulation to improve cognitive development among children.	
	Drafted policy note on options for the provision of SQ-LNS to prevent undernutrition in the Sahel.	
<b>COMPONENT 2:</b> <b>Interventions to strengthen investments in human capital in a shock-prone environment</b>		In collaboration with Health, Nutrition and Population Global Practice, prepare a pilot intervention aiming to support parental resilience in Senegal. Undertake survey to assess levels of parental stress among safety net beneficiaries.
		Design a module that can be delivered by lay persons in a community setting; test the module in FY24 or FY25.
		Support revision of delivery and content of human capital-focused accompanying measures in Senegal and Niger. Undertake a process evaluation in Niger.
		Write blog post on collaboration between and Extractives and Social Protection and Jobs teams to address household air pollution. In collaboration with and Extractives Global Practice, conduct qualitative work to understand constraints to clean cooking among safety net beneficiaries in Niger, and based on findings, identify options to address the issue.
		In collaboration with Health, Nutrition and Population Global Practice, explore collaboration to provide SQ-LNS to safety net beneficiaries in Burkina Faso.
	Made quantitative evaluation of the impact of making women the beneficiaries of cash transfers in Koulikoro (also under Mali country section).	Disseminate findings and discussion of implications for program design (also under Mali country section).
<b>COMPONENT 3:</b> <b>Protecting existing investments in human capital in a shock-prone environment</b>	Prepared for the study on the impact of timing of shock response on human capital accumulation and preservation.	Analyze quantitative data from impact evaluations to estimate the effect of timing of intervention on human capital accumulation and preservation (in Mauritania and Senegal).
		Conduct qualitative work to understand how the timing of transfers affects household consumption and women's control over household resources and the potential implications for women's empowerment and childhood human capital (in Mauritania and Senegal).



### 3.6 COMMUNICATIONS AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

**SASPP works with multiple programs across six countries and incorporates five cross-cutting themes, each of which has its own unique approaches, outcomes, and impacts.**

This range of program outcomes necessitates an innovative approach to communications and knowledge management to accommodate diverse and varied messaging and target audiences. In FY23, a Knowledge Management and Communications (KMC) team was established to provide systematic product management, deliver effective communication mechanisms within the program, implement strategic communications activities, and ensure that intended audiences are reached efficiently and effectively. Efforts across the three interconnected components are summarized below.

#### COMPONENT 1:

##### Increased national counterpart and partner buy-in to ASP in the region

**The objective of this component is to increase awareness of and buy-in for Adaptive Social Protection among national counterparts and partners in the region.** To build buy-in in the countries supported by the SASPP, the Knowledge Management and Communications (KMC) team supports

country teams in preparing knowledge products that stimulate policy dialogue and provide access to evidence on impact and best practices. In FY23, the KMC team initiated a stakeholder analysis in each country to identify and map specific actors that country teams wish to target with key messaging. As a result, the team is preparing three to four-minute videos presenting ASP in each country—starting with Senegal and Chad in May 2023. The aim of these videos is to increase national and partner buy-in to ASP in the region and to increase a wider understanding of ASP as an effective and efficient use of resources.

**In FY24, the team will provide support to the SASPP teams to identify common beliefs and misperceptions around ASP and better package outputs and generated evidence.**

A perception survey will be implemented across the region, which will identify beliefs, myths, and both positive and negative attitudes toward ASP. The results of the survey will enable the KMC team to develop targeted messaging and communication to counter or reinforce certain prevailing narratives. Finally, the KMC team will also support the thematic pillars in formatting their key findings in ways that are most relevant to national stakeholders. For example, the KMC team is supporting the elaboration of infographics on evidence supported by the Poverty and Vulnerability pillar to make it more accessible.

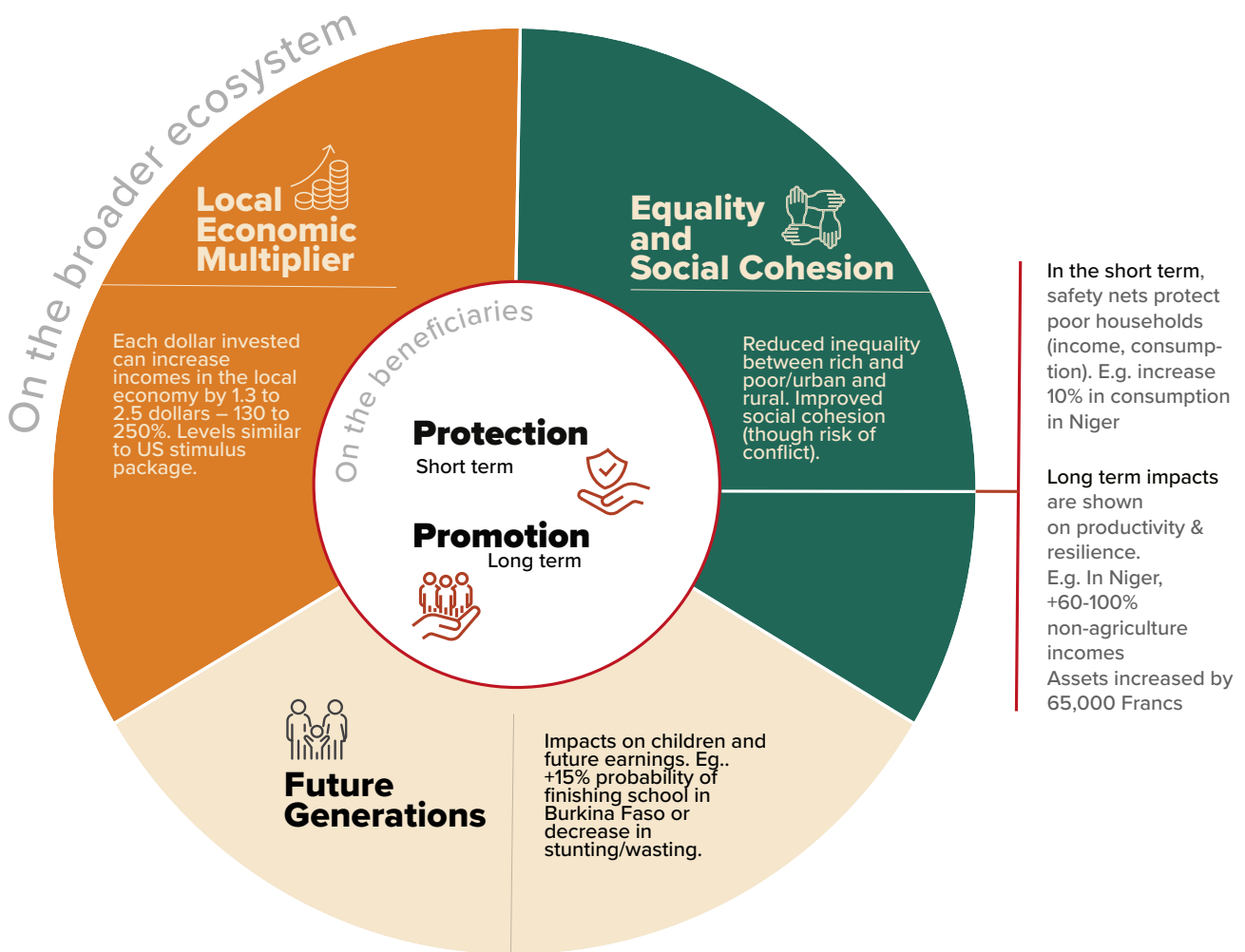


**BOX 8 COMMUNICATING IMPACTS OF ASP ON HOUSEHOLDS, SOCIETY, AND THE ECONOMY**

As part of its effort to share broadly information on the impacts of ASP and to address negative beliefs and attitudes toward ASP, the SASPP team has started collating evidence from the six countries on five dimensions of impact (under Pillar 1 discussed above) and preparing infographics for broad communication. The five dimensions include: (1) impacts on beneficiary households in the short term, (2) impacts on longer-term household resilience, (3) impacts on social cohesion and equality, (4) impacts on future generations, and (5) broader economic impacts.

**FIGURE 8**

The impacts of Adaptive Social Protection





**COMPONENT 2:****Promoting cross-learning, knowledge accessibility**

**The objective of this component is to ensure SASPP analyses, outputs, and policy recommendations are disseminated to the wider community of ASP practitioners.**

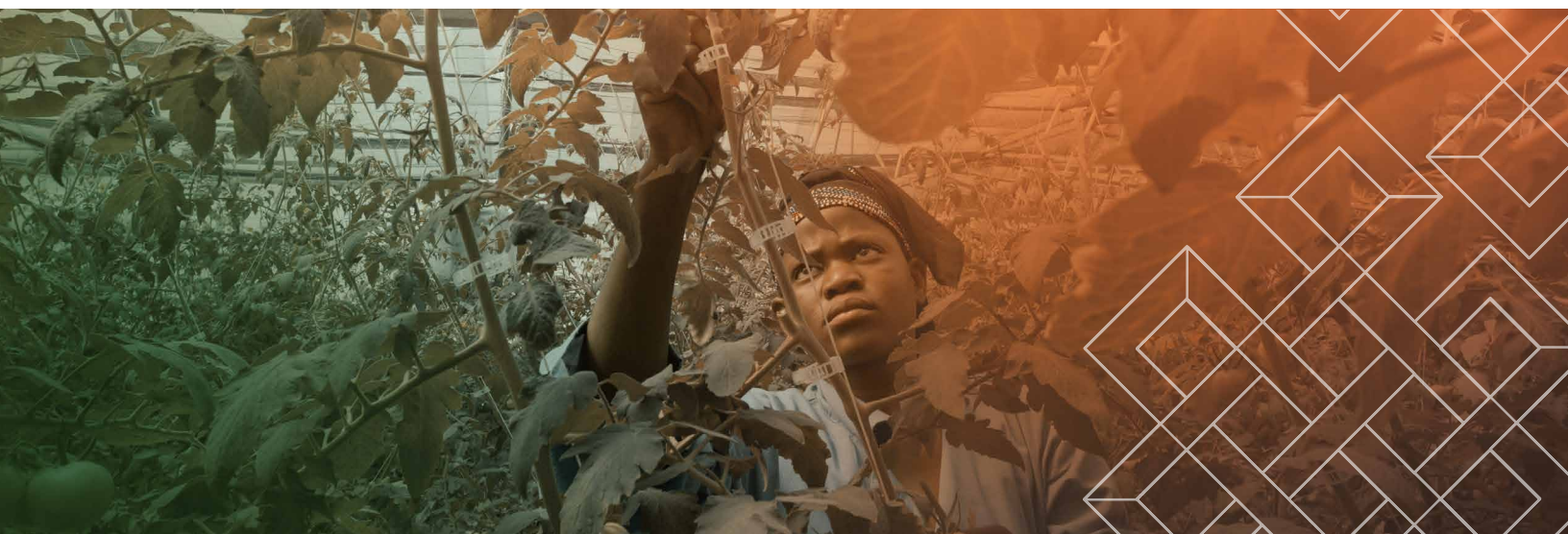
In FY23, the team focused its efforts on establishing diverse platforms to provide a unified and recognizable brand image. An important advance was the launch of the bilingual [SASPP Website \(PPSAS website in French\)](#), which consolidates all SASPP-related work in one public domain. To enhance access to easily digestible information, the team has systematized SASPP publications into different types of publications: SASPP Policy Notes, SASPP Technical Papers, Flagship Reports, blogs, and other multimedia products. In addition to managing the publication workflows and ensuring quality assurance, the KMC team supports SASPP country and thematic teams with blog and policy note writing, as needed, and with their systematic translation in French and English. The team supported the production of 18 SASPP publications in FY23 (see publication annex). The KMC team will also continue facilitating communication between SASPP country teams to share insight and evidence within the region. To this effect, the KMC team is to launch a monthly internal newsletter that will share information on the latest events and publications. The KMC team also facilitated country and thematic teams' participation in public dissemination events, such as the April 2023 Partnership for Economic Inclusion Open House, which was organized entirely in French and focused on regional perspectives around the productive inclusion element of ASP.

**In FY24, the KMC team will focus on expanding knowledge dissemination channels, incorporating pre-existing and new innovative channels.** This includes the preparation

of a quarterly e-update, with the objective of keeping the wider ASP, partner, and donor audience informed on the program. The team will also launch its LinkedIn social media channel to engage and build an online community of practice. This will be the key social media platform to increase engagement with SASPP and channel traffic to the SASPP website. The team is also considering producing a podcast series to disseminate key findings from thematic or country analysis.

**COMPONENT 3:****Ensuring growth and long-term sustainability of SASPP**

The third component aims at ensuring that international partners recognize the value of the SASPP program and its mandates. Sustained support in the years to come is critical to ensuring the WB and its partners can continue to support the establishment of long-term ASP systems. The team also provided inputs to SASPP presentations targeting potential new partners. In FY24, the KMC team will work with SASPP partners with a view of providing them with the information and material they need to advocate for continued support to ASP among their constituencies.



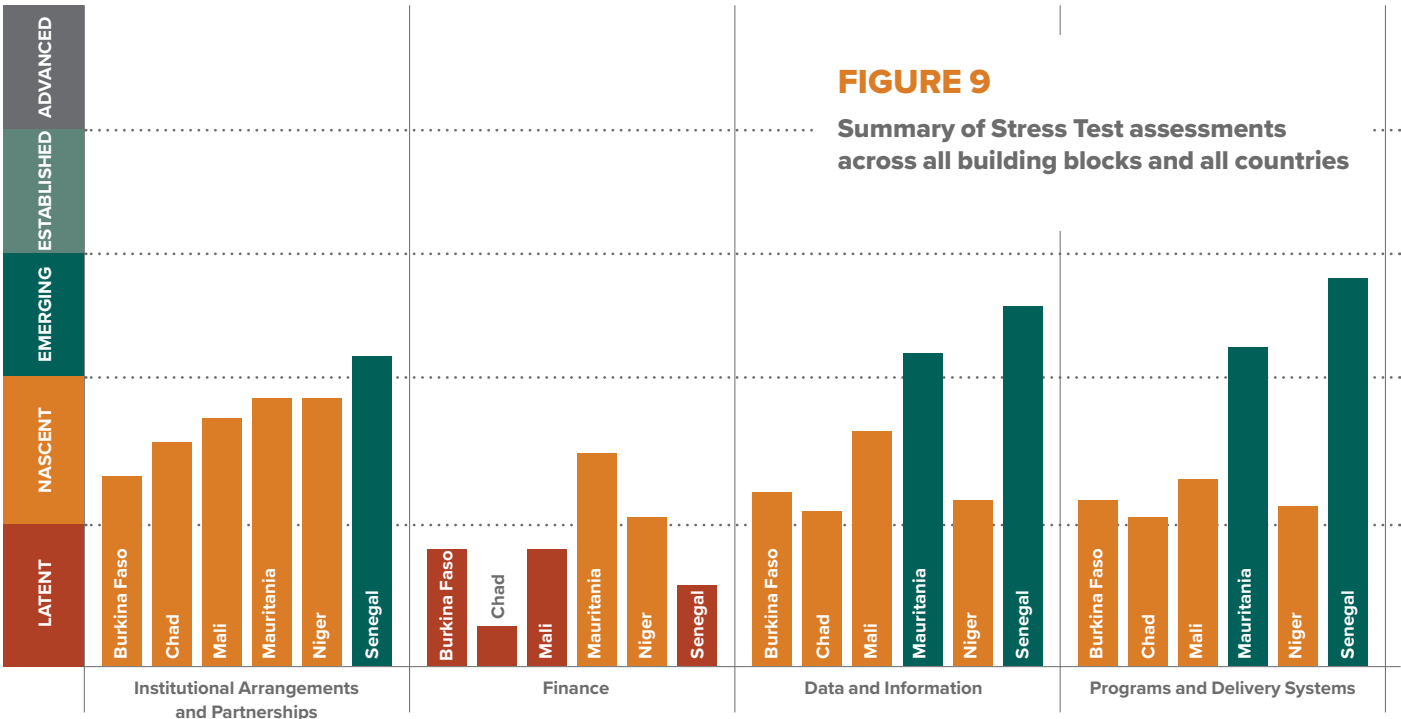


# 4 SASPP COUNTRY ACTIVITIES: FY23 ACHIEVEMENTS AND FY24 PLANS

While each country has made significant progress in establishing the adaptive social protection (ASP) building blocks, progress is not uniform across countries or building blocks. All countries have the foundations of an ASP system, are able to do regular cash transfers to the poor, and respond to some shocks, particularly annual food insecurity, albeit with some delays. The greatest advances have been made in Mauritania and Senegal, whose routine safety nets have reached a national scale (see Figure 8). All countries have established a social registry or worked on its foundations, but the static approach to data collection can limit their use for shock response. The low penetration of digital payment systems constrains countries in the adoption

of modern payment approaches. Finance is the building block with the least progress across the region.

This section summarizes SASPP country-level activities deployed to support progress along the four building blocks. During FY23, SASPP continued to provide support to countries by combining significant investments through projects (implemented by government agencies, see Tables 12 and 14 in Appendix 2) and country-specific analytical and technical assistance (implemented through the Bank-executed grants detailed in Table 16 in Appendix 2). This section presents a detailed summary of activities undertaken in FY23, progress achieved in each country, and activities planned for FY24.



## 4.1 BURKINA FASO

### ASP World Bank Engagement in Burkina Faso

**The Social Safety Net Project (P124015), which was approved in FY14, represents the main platform for the dialogue on ASP in Burkina Faso.** The objective of this project is to establish the building blocks of an adaptive safety net system and increase access to social safety nets to poor and vulnerable households through regular and shock-responsive cash transfers and productive inclusion activities (a labor-intensive public works planned for the northern Sahel region was removed in FY23 because of security constraints). It initially benefited from a US\$50 million International Development Association (IDA) allocation and a US\$6 million SASPP multi-donor trust fund (MDTF) contribution. In FY19, the project was significantly expanded with additional financing of US\$110 million (US\$100 million from IDA and US\$10 million from the SASPP MDTF) to scale up shock-response programs and respond to refugee needs. In May 2022, a third additional financing of US\$30 million from the SASPP MDTF became effective, taking overall funding to US\$196 million. The additional financing, in line with the initial project's development objective, aims to strengthen the government's safety net response to the cumulative impacts of COVID-19, climate, and conflict shocks affecting the well-being of poor households in Burkina Faso. It also intends to support system-building activities such as deploying the social registry. As the Social Safety Net Project is scheduled to close in March 2024, the Task Team has begun preparing a follow-on operation (Support to the Adaptive Social Protection System project, P178667) with an indicative IDA allocation of US\$250m and US\$10m from the SASPP, which will build on the engagement on ASP to date and continue to implement ASP priorities. The West Africa Unique Identification for Regional Integration and Inclusion operation (P169594) complements the ASP systems building agenda by implementing a unique

identifier. The team coordinates closely with Finance, Competitiveness & Innovation Global Practice on disaster risk financing and agriculture on food insecurity. Key reforms (particularly related to the institutionalization of a social registry) have been supported by a series of development policy operations. Finally, the team is collaborating with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) based on its analysis of public expenditure. As a result, the IMF has included in its policy dialogue with the government the establishment and financing of the national safety net program (including adaptive features such as a shock-responsive component and economic inclusion activities).

### Changes in ASP context during FY23

**During FY23, the security situation in Burkina Faso continued to deteriorate.** The current government came to power in a coup in September 2022, the second one after the previous democratically elected government was overthrown in January 2022. As of March 2023, the country counted around 1.9 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) and more than 27,000 registered refugees, mostly from Mali. Estimates suggest that the government currently controls about 60 percent of its territory, rendering many particularly poor and vulnerable areas of the country inaccessible to government-implemented service delivery.

**Insecurity, inflation, and climate-related shocks, part of the “poly-crisis” Burkina currently faces, have contributed to significant food insecurity.** According to the results of the Cadre Harmonisé of March 2023, 3.3 million people are projected to be in food insecurity (Integrated Food Security Phase Classification level three) during the upcoming lean season (June–September 2023), a number comparable to 2022. However, for the first time in Burkina Faso, there are 42,000 people at severe risk of famine (phase five), primarily located in the Sahel region, one of the region's most severely impacted by insecurity.



**Despite the increasingly catastrophic humanitarian situation, cash-based social assistance has faced opposition from certain actors within the government.**

This opposition is fueled primarily by the lack of government control over the use of cash at a time when all financial flows in insecure regions are scrutinized, and there are legitimate concerns about the lack of coordination among the multitude of actors implementing cash-based assistance. As a result, governors of two of the regions most affected by insecurity took the decision to ban cash-based assistance in 2023 (Sahel and Centre-Nord regions, a similar decision in the Est Region was later reversed). This decision also applies to the Bank-financed Social Safety Net project, impacting around half of its beneficiaries. Since then, dialogue at the regional and central levels has accelerated to clarify common myths about cash-based assistance and to improve coordination among actors, including by harmonizing transfer amounts and better aligning geographic targeting. This dialogue has led to a reversal of the ban on cash transfers in one region, and as of June 2023, the dialogue continues to find a long-term solution endorsed by the government.

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

**The vision for ASP in Burkina Faso.** Burkina's adaptive social protection system is still nascent. Institutional arrangements remain to be strengthened, and ASP principles are yet to be fully appropriated. Although many elements of an ASP system are present (for example, a food security response plan, a national food security system, some contingency funds for food insecurity, parametric insurance for drought, a social safety net project operational for 10 years), many still need to be strengthened, find themselves in early implementation stages (for example, the social registry, the national cash transfer program, and a unique identifier), or are not adequately integrated into a coherent system. The objective, therefore, is to fully establish and implement the key missing ASP elements (social registry, national program, unique identifier, and a payments platform) and to integrate them into a coherent system under government leadership supported by solid institutional arrangements.

**Several achievements of the FY23 fiscal year contribute to this long-term objective.**

The elaboration of the social registry manual, its rolling out in two regions covering 210,440 households planned for July, and the development

of a roadmap for its national deployment have represented a significant step toward the realization of one of the key missing building blocks of the ASP system. In FY23, the elaboration and validation in May of a national safety net program also filled an important gap. The program, which will use the social registry for targeting, is expected to ensure the coordination of interventions under government leadership. Moreover, a reform of the national food security response system was launched to improve coordination and efficiency and to strengthen the role of the national program's cash transfers in the response. This reform process is complemented by an assessment of potential sustainable financing channels for shock-responsive cash transfers. All activities were implemented with partners, particularly the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in line with agreed action plans. These achievements put Burkina Faso on a path toward a coherent ASP system despite the political and institutional instability and the consequent slowing down of activities.

**FY24 will be critical to consolidating recent achievements and showing their impact as the country handles multiple crises.**

In FY24, the social registry is expected to be deployed to 11 provinces (a third of the country). It is expected to serve as a basis for targeting various government and partner interventions, thereby contributing to efficiency and coordination. Users will be able to request information on poverty, categorical vulnerabilities, and refugee/host/IDP status when identifying their beneficiaries. The registry's first user, the national program, is expected to identify 60,000 beneficiary households through the registry. The reform of the national food security response is expected to continue. More generally, the dialogue around the new World Bank project is expected to support further implementation of key ASP elements, the strengthening of the ASP institutional environment, and the first use of the social registry and the national program as key elements of an ASP system.



## Detailed SASPP activities

TABLE 6

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

BUILDING BLOCKS	FY23 ACTUAL ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS	FY24 PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS
<b>INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS</b>	Elaborated the roadmap to reform the national food security system.	Recruit consultants to update the texts governing the system and organization of validation workshops.
	Elaborated the joint action plans with FAO and WFP.	Implement joint action plans with a specific focus on the reform of the national food security system.
	Organized workshop, under the leadership of the Ministry of Solidarity, gathering all humanitarian actors involved in cash transfer to improve coordination and targeting.	Elaborate a protocol governing cash transfers in Burkina Faso and technical assistance for its implementation.
	Supported (1) developing a roadmap for the food security response cycle, (2) organizing a lean season planning workshop, and (3) producing a study on the lessons learned from the 2022 lean season response through the secondment of an international technical assistance to the Food Security Coordination Agency (SE-CNSA).	Conduct study on the 2023 lean season response and workshop on lessons learned.  Develop a manual for the planning, monitoring and coordination of the food security response.
<b>PROGRAMS AND DELIVERY SYSTEMS</b>	Provided technical and financial assistance to the elaboration of a national safety net program.	Provide technical assistance to the operationalization of the national program.
	Completed impact evaluation of the economic inclusion package in the East region. The (preliminary) results were used to design the national program.	Include results in the operational manual of the national program.
	Diagnosed the social assistance payment environment in Burkina Faso realized by Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP).	Support the set-up of the national payment platform by the Ministry of Finance in collaboration with Finance, Competitiveness & Innovation Global Practice (with support from the PAIF-PME project and new ASP operation).
<b>FINANCE</b>	Diagnosed the National Solidarity Fund and of the Food Security Support Fund to assess the legal and institutional framework, organizational structure, and financial management.	Provide technical assistance to strengthen the Food Security Support Fund (FASA) and create a sub-window dedicated to shock-responsive cash transfers.
<b>DATA AND INFORMATION</b>	Drafted methodology manual for the social registry, prepared pilot in two regions, elaborated the national deployment plan, and designed the Management Information System (MIS).	Provide technical assistance to accompany the registry's national deployment and ensure quality standards are met.
	Finalized the poverty map (in collaboration with the Poverty Global Practice) ensuring the deployment plan is in line with the geographic patterns of poverty.	
	Launched a study to identify food security and nutrition indicators that the early warning system (EWS) can collect at the communal (admin three level).	Finalize the study and support to the implementation of its recommendations.

## SASPP supported (recipient-executed) and IDA projects/DPLs

**The Social Safety Net project has benefitted from SASPP funds totaling US\$46m since 2014.** The most recent financing of US\$30m, which became effective in May 2022, has been critical in advancing the ASP agenda in Burkina Faso during the fiscal year. The funds enabled the provision of shock-responsive cash transfers to 99,057 recipients in areas affected by food insecurity during the 2022 lean season through a vertical expansion to existing recipients of the IDA-financed regular cash transfers. Moreover, SASPP funding has permitted the provision of economic inclusion measures to a total of 22,294 recipients. Lastly, the important advances in the implementation of the social registry, including the elaboration of the methodology, development of the registry's MIS, and deployment in two pilot regions covering 210,440 households (planned for July 2023), were made possible by SASPP funding. In FY24, funds will be used to respond to the 2023 lean season (both through a vertical and a horizontal expansion, depending on the implementation speed of the social registry) and for the further deployment of the social registry.

### BUILDING BLOCK 1:

#### Institutional arrangements and partnerships

**Under this pillar, the most critical activity of FY23 was the elaboration of the roadmap to reform the national food security response system.** The current system, designed in 2003, does not formally include cash transfers among its instruments, although they have increasingly been used in recent years. The reform is an opportunity to ensure cash transfers are recognized as a response modality and incorporated into the national food security response system for better coordination and efficiency of the response. Ultimately it is expected that the shock-response cash transfer of the national program (see below) becomes the primary vehicle to deliver cash transfers for food security-related shocks. The reform process is supported by technical assistance to strengthen the SE-CNSA's leadership, plan the government's food security response, and coordinate and monitor its implementation. Support is provided as part of joint action plans with WFP and FAO to ensure coordination and alignment. SASPP also supported the organization of a workshop with all stakeholders

involved in the implementation of cash transfers in Burkina in response to the governors' request to improve coordination and targeting. The resulting protocol defining the scope, modalities, targeting criteria, and accountability measures of cash transfers is expected to be validated in the third quarter of 2023.

### **In FY24, the World Bank will accompany the reform's implementation to ensure ASP principles are respected and synergies between the different instruments exist.**

Specifically, the World Bank will recommend including the Ministry of Solidarity in charge of the national program in the texts governing the national food security system. This will ensure that food security shock-related cash transfers are coordinated within the national system and funds are channeled through the national program. The team will continue providing advice to the SE-CNSA during the various steps of the national food security response' planning cycle, supported as well through SASPP funds allocated to the new operation. Lastly, the team will contribute to the development and implementation of the protocol on the use of cash transfers and support its implementation.

### BUILDING BLOCK 2:

#### Programs and delivery systems

### **In FY23, a significant achievement was the design and validation of the national safety net program in May 2023.**

In order to maximize the efficiency of available funding, the program will bring ongoing safety net interventions (for now, those financed by the World Bank, French Development Agency [AFD], and KfW, as well as a government contribution) under a single umbrella with standardized modalities and approaches. The goal is to reach the poorest 20 percent of the population across the entire country. Setting this ambitious target is also intended as a resource mobilization instrument, as it is only partially funded to date. The government also included the possibility for donors to finance humanitarian actors to implement the national program on behalf of the authorities. WFP and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) are in discussion with the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the government to implement such a project where modalities are fully aligned with the national safety net program. To underline its commitment, the government has pledged to provide

funding that is sufficient to cover 60,000 households starting in 2023. The program document draws significantly on the knowledge generated with support from SASPP, including the impact evaluation of economic inclusion measures in Burkina Faso. A diagnostic study on the social assistance payments environment carried out in collaboration with CGAP contributed to this building block.

**In FY24, the team will support the national program's coverage of 60,000 households, as per the government's commitment, and integrate the current project activities under the umbrella.** Key activities will include finalizing and operationalizing the program's institutional arrangements, elaborating the operational manual, supporting the mobilization of additional resources, integrating the program into the national food security system (see reform processes under the previous building block), and continuing the advocacy for the use of cash transfer as a response modality toward the regional authorities. The results of the diagnostic on social assistance payments will moreover support technical assistance for the set-up of the national payment platform by the Ministry of Finance in collaboration with the Finance, Competitiveness & Innovation Global Practice (with support from PAIF-PME project and new ASP operation).

### **BUILDING BLOCK 3:**

#### **Finance**

**In FY23, a diagnostic study of two emergency funds was conducted to develop an analytical basis for strengthening the country's shock-response finance mechanism.** The study focused on the National Solidarity Fund (Fond de Solidarité Nationale [FNS]) and FASA. The study provided a basis for a policy dialogue with the Ministry of Agriculture (which hosts the FASA) on options to strengthen the FASA as part of the ongoing reform process (see above). Specifically, the creation of a sub-window under the FASA dedicated to cash transfers was decided. This enables the channeling of funds to the national program for shock response. It also integrates cash transfers into the functional and institutional architecture of the food security response framework (in coordination with the technical assistance provided under the Financial Inclusion Support Project (P164786) on the development of a national disaster risk financing strategy).

**In FY24, the team will provide technical and financial support to strengthen the FASA.** This will include activities such as (1) finalizing and validating a financial and administrative manual, (2) developing and operationalizing an operational manual, (3) strengthening the FASA's financial management system, (4) elaborating a resource mobilization plan, and (5) recruiting dedicated personnel to the fund (through IDA funds). The tentative design of the new WB operation in Burkina Faso foresees further technical assistance to the FASA (financed through a SASPP contribution to the new operation) and envisages the channeling of IDA funds for shock-responsive cash transfers through the FASA from 2026.

### **BUILDING BLOCK 4:**

#### **Data and information**

**During FY23, the team focused on the social registry, a key missing element of Burkina Faso's ASP system.** The registry's implementation showed major advancements during the fiscal year with the validation of the targeting methodology, the elaboration of the registry's operational manual, the finalization of the MIS, the ongoing roll-out in two pilot regions, and the preparation of a three-year deployment plan (activities benefitted from the updated poverty map supported in collaboration with the Poverty Global Practice). SASPP furthermore supported a workshop to adapt the deployment in hard-to-reach areas and facilitated several consultations with development and humanitarian actors to sensitize partners on the social registry. Regarding the EWS, a study was launched to define indicators related to food and nutrition security to be collected at the communal level (admin three), going beyond the level of disaggregation currently used by the Cadre Harmonisé (admin two). Increasing the granularity of available data is intended to strengthen the Cadre Harmonisé and improve the precision of shock response planning. Ultimately the objective is to better inform early planning and decision-making for shock-responsive cash transfers, including those of the national program.

**In FY24, the team will review the results of the social registry pilot, draw lessons learned and recommendations, and support the further deployment of the social registry according to the three-year plan.** The study on the EWS will be finalized, and the recommendations will be implemented with funding from the new operation.

## BOX 9 IMPLEMENTING A SOCIAL REGISTRY: FROM POLICY COMMITMENT TO REALITY ON THE GROUND

**In 2012, Burkina Faso adopted the National Social Protection Policy, which aimed to bring about a fundamental change in the intervention approaches implemented by the state, civil society, and the private sector alike in order to promote social protection, especially toward vulnerable groups.** This policy, which came to an end in 2022, was based on instruments including social safety nets and will be replaced by a national strategy awaiting validation. In this strategy, Burkina Faso renews its vision that a database system is fundamental to identify poor and vulnerable households and individuals potentially eligible for social protection and anti-poverty programs.

**With this in mind, and with a view to coordinating actions in favor of social protection, the government adopted a decree in 2021 on the creation, organization, and operationalization of the Social Registry (SR) of households and individuals living in poverty and vulnerability in Burkina Faso. A Technical Secretariat for the Unified Social Registry was established in October 2021.**

**According to the Decree, the SR is defined as an information and data management system making it possible to identify all poor and vulnerable households and individuals based on socio-economic variables.** The challenges and stakes of the SR are to provide a national standard and a reliable database of poor and vulnerable households, built up in a transparent way, to serve as a reference for the various social programs. To achieve this, the SR draws on national statistical production, namely the general census of population and housing, the poverty map, and the results of various surveys on household living conditions.

**Two targeting approaches were designed: community targeting in rural areas and door-to-door interviews in urban areas.** The operational manual, adopted in August 2022, sets out the modus operandi, as well as the tools and stakeholders involved.

**A pilot phase was launched in October 2022 in two regions (Centre-East and Centre-West) to test the entire system. The pilot phase is currently on-going and expected to be completed in 2023.** Subsequently, it is planned to roll out the SR nationwide over a three-year plan. However, the SR operationalization process faces a major challenge with Burkina Faso's security situation. Several locations are difficult to access, putting the deployment strategy set out in the operational manual to the test. An additional protocol has been drawn up to mitigate this challenge, setting out strategies for deploying the registry in areas with moderate insecurity. Finally, the deployment of the SR in insecure areas where the government is no longer present is a challenge that remains to be tackled.



## 4.2 CHAD

### ASP World Bank Engagement in Chad

**The Refugees and Host Communities Support (PARCA) Project (P164748), approved in September 2018, is the basis of engagement on the ASP agenda in Chad.** With an initial IDA allocation of US\$60 million, its objective is to improve access of refugees and host communities to basic services, livelihoods, and safety nets and strengthen country systems to manage refugees. The project benefited from an additional financing of US\$81 million (of which US\$6 million is from SASPP) in 2019 to support additional beneficiaries and increase its engagement on the ASP agenda, including through productive inclusion activities and the introduction of shock-response cash transfers. The work of PARCA is complemented by other projects, including the Chad Energy access scale-up (P174495) aimed at increasing access to electricity and clean cooking to poor and vulnerable households, the Chad Fragility and Resilience (P177163) project expected to complement PARCA in the East of Chad, and the N'djamena urban resilience project (P177044) which focuses on flood risk and resilience of urban households. The ongoing human capital review (P177928) emphasizes the role of ASP in improving human capital among vulnerable households. The DIZA operation, financed by the European Union and the AFD, also complements PARCA's intervention by improving the coverage of the safety net interventions. Finally, the government has expressed interest in the design of a new ASP operation to lay the foundations for a national system that can promote resilience and address multiple shocks for all poor and vulnerable households, building on PARCA's programs and systems.

### Changes in ASP context during FY23

**Chad is undergoing a political transition with a relatively stable security situation.** The current government came to power after the death of President Deby and, following the National Dialogue launched in August 2022, it was decided that the transition would be extended until September 2024. This announcement triggered civil unrest, leading to the death of more than 50 people on October 20, 2022. The country is also highly impacted by instability originating from neighboring countries, which has led to the presence as of March 2023 of up to 381,289 IDPs and more than 583,356 registered refugees, mostly from southern Libya, Niger, Sudan (Darfur), Central African Republic, Nigeria, and Cameroon. This instability has resulted in the presence of terrorist groups in the Lake Chad region. Climatic shocks and their socio-economic consequences in recent years have also fueled inter-community conflicts. Farmer-herder conflicts over land, water, and grazing have escalated with unprecedented violence resulting in several deaths and destruction of food crops and creating pockets of famine. This context of insecurity induced a reorientation of the state budget in favor of national and sub-regional security. Combined with the high level of debt and high dependency on extractive resources, this led to budgetary volatility, which has affected social spending.

**Chad declared a food and nutrition emergency resulting from a combination of poor rainfall during the previous rainy season and significant inflation.** The national response plan identified seven provinces at risk of food insecurity. Food insecurity is expected to affect more than 5.3 million people, and 1.5 million are considered to be in a severe situation, requiring emergency food assistance during the 2023 lean season (May–August). The 2022 Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions survey revealed global acute malnutrition of

8.6 percent, just below the high alert threshold set by the WHO, putting the country in a so-called average situation in terms of public health. Also, in 2022, heavy downpours in the south resulted in severe flooding and the displacement of 182,000 people in N'Djamena and Koundoul (Chari Baguirmi). Overall, the floods affected 1.3 million people in 19 out of 23 provinces of Chad. Finally, the ongoing conflict in Sudan is expected to result in both an inflow of IDPs and refugees and pressures on the price of food and other basic commodities since Sudan has been the main food supplier for Eastern Chad. The diversity of risks affecting the country emphasizes the need for the development of a national and multi-hazard ASP system beyond the current coverage of PARCA.

### Key ASP developments and SASPP activities

**Overall, Chad's adaptive social protection system is still nascent, and the medium-term objective is to move all the ASP building blocks closer to those of an emerging system, in line with the government's vision to develop an integrated nationwide ASP system.** There is strong government support to develop programs and delivery systems with national coverage. Chad has made progress in the past year in the data and information building block (for example, the premise of a social registry, strengthened EWS) and the program and delivery systems building block (for example, the cash transfer program, the digital payment pilot, and green line), but significant efforts are needed to achieve the government's vision of enlarging the coverage of the ASP system to the entire country. There is also a need to set up an integrated delivery system under government leadership, supported by solid institutional arrangements and to develop the finance building block.

**In FY23, several achievements contributed to the long-term objective of strengthening the ASP system in Chad.**

In terms of institutional arrangements and partnership, the team supported the design of the new National Social Protection Strategy (2022–26), which encompasses the ASP principles. Once approved, this strategy will provide the national framework, which was recently identified in the convergence study (part of Pillar D above) as one of the missing elements for greater coordination of social protection actors. In terms of the programs and delivery building blocks, the WB provided technical assistance

for an emergency intervention aiming at newly arrived Cameroonian refugees. Using ASP systems to respond to an influx of refugees is a new and innovative intervention in Chad and in the region. To improve the accountability and transparency of interventions, SASPP also supported the digitalization of the GRM system and the operationalization of a green line, as well as supported the use of mobile phone agencies to improve the quality and reduce the cost of the payment system. On the data and information front, the WB continued its support to the National Institute of Statistics around the development of a social registry platform and to the CFS around the development of a robust MIS. The WB also provided strong institutional support to the SISAAP (Chad's EWS institution) to reinforce government capacity and leadership in data collection and analysis for crisis response decision-making.

**FY24 will be critical to consolidate recent achievements and respond to the government's desire to scale up the ASP in Chad.**

On the program and delivery side, a process evaluation of the adaptive cash transfer will provide insight on how to improve the effectiveness of the system. The team will continue providing technical assistance to strengthen the productive inclusion program, integrating recommendations from the recent impact evaluation. Regarding data and information, the team will focus on supporting the deployment of the social registry, with a view to ultimately cover all 23 provinces and to serve as the basis for targeting for various governmental and partner initiatives. A complete diagnosis of the MIS is scheduled to identify areas of improvement to enable transparent and efficient targeting, registration, and payment, as well as interoperability with the system of digital payment companies. A vulnerability mapping and an assessment of insurance systems for the informal sector and rural population will complement the ongoing technical support to SISAAP and the upcoming work on a risk financing strategy. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) under preparation between WFP and the World Bank will help coordinate support to the SISAAP.

## Detailed SASPP activities

**TABLE 7**

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

BUILDING BLOCKS	FY23 ACTUAL ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS	FY24 PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS
<b>INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS</b>	Assessed Unified Social Registry (RSU) and EWS management structures and updated regulatory frameworks.	Develop an MoU with WFP with the aim of working toward the food insecurity response.
	Supported the government for the design of the new social protection strategy.	Organize a workshop to discuss the RSU and its enhancement with relevant stakeholders.
<b>PROGRAMS AND DELIVERY SYSTEMS</b>	Launched productive inclusion activities in the three initial provinces.	Design the new productive inclusion packages based on key findings from qualitative research on mechanisms for socio-economic integration in four provinces.  Disseminate productive inclusion impact evaluation findings.
	Supported the strengthening of the grievance redress mechanism (GRM) system by the design of a digital platform and the use of green line for an integrated, inclusive, and more secured GRM	Evaluate the digital GRM system to understand its use, ability to address sensitive issues (gender-based violence [GBV] and personal data protection), and user feedback, relative to the standard GRM system.
		Complete a process evaluation of the adaptive CT to inform next ASP project preparation.  Develop an operational manual for new ASP activities focused on food-insecure areas under PARCA.
<b>FINANCE</b>		Assess insurance systems for the informal sector and rural population.
		Provide initial support to the government for developing a risk financing strategy.
<b>DATA AND INFORMATION</b>	Designed the roadmap for the implementation of the RSU and technical assistance to the government to update the harmonized questionnaire.	Continue to support the RSU establishment and rolling out.
	Supported to the data collection and analysis for decision-making by the SISAAP.	Map vulnerability to inform ASP shock response.

### SASPP supported (recipient-executed) and IDA projects/DPLs

**As part of the overall PARCA, SASPP provided US\$6 million to complement the IDA allocation of US\$135 million.** This allocation was critical for advancing the ASP agenda in Chad, particularly during FY23. Indeed, these resources financed part of the support to 14,000 newly arrived Cameroonian refugee households through a one-time cash transfer (CFAF 45,000, about US\$75 per household member) to improve

their access to food and other basic items. In addition, SASPP funding also supported the provision of productive inclusion activities to 2,000 households. Finally, SASPP funding supported the elaboration of the social registry methodology, the development of its MIS, and the collection of data on around 500,000 households (representing 34 percent of the poor in 14 out of the 23 provinces). In FY24, SASPP funds will be used to strengthen the social registry platform to enable its deployment and to initiate analyses on the ASP financing building block.

## BUILDING BLOCK 1:

### Institutional arrangements and partnerships

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**The most critical activities of FY23 were the assessment of the institutional structures of the RSU and the study on the institutional landscape of EWS, as well as the updating of their regulatory frameworks linking the RSU to the National Institute of Statistics and the EWS to the Prime Minister.** A harmonized questionnaire has been developed for the RSU and made mandatory for all stakeholders involved in social protection interventions. The SASPP team also facilitated collaboration between SISAAP and the Cellule Filets Sociaux (CFS) to enhance the government's ability to prepare for and respond to crises in collaboration with WFP. At the policy level, the team provided support to the government, along with numerous development partners, for the drafting of the national social protection strategy. Finally, SASPP also supported the coordination between the government and humanitarian actors in the context of the response to the Cameroonian refugee influx: While the government supported the construction of health spaces (with support from PARCA) in the two camps located in close vicinity of N'Djamena, their operationalization was done in collaboration with humanitarian actors (including United Nations Fund for Population Activities [UNFPA], United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR], and International Rescue Committee [IRC]), who support staff and inputs for the first years of implementation. As a result, services are provided to both refugees and host communities under the leadership of the government and in a manner that promotes their sustainability.

**In FY24, the World Bank will continue accompanying the government in the implementation of its social protection strategy by supporting the application of ASP principles and enhancing synergies between different instruments (national program, social registry, and so on).** The strategy was developed under the guidance of the inter-ministerial technical committee with technical and financial support from the World Bank, UNICEF, and WFP. The lack of effective coordination and leadership in the social protection sector delayed the formal adoption of the strategy. Recently, the government and key partners (World Bank, UNICEF, and WFP) agreed to carry out a technical review of the strategy to update data and information and make it consistent with the ongoing national development plan, which is scheduled for the period 2024–28. This will ensure ownership of

the strategy at the ministerial level while facilitating its monitoring and evaluation. The government has included a strong implementation and piloting framework in its strategy, which ensures the link between the central and local levels. The strategy incorporates several piloting levels: (1) High Steering Committee, Steering Committee, Permanent Technical Secretariat, and ministerial cells at the central level and (2) Provincial Committees at the regional level. The team will also continue supporting and advocating for the use of EWS as tools for emergency preparedness and response to shocks, the reinforcement of EWS indicators, and the estimation of costs for scaling up of ASP response within the country. Furthermore, the current dialogue with stakeholders such as WFP will contribute to strengthening the capacity of SISAAP in developing a multi-shock early warning system that better supports the design of the national shock response plan. In addition, the team will take advantage of the current collaboration with Centre for Disaster Protection (CDP)/SASPP to strengthen the EWS.

## BUILDING BLOCK 2:

### Programs and delivery systems

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**In FY23, the team continued to support the government's shock-response and productive inclusion interventions.** In terms of shock response, SASPP financed direct support to poor and vulnerable households in N'Djamena in response to COVID-19. The support reached 22,000 households, with a US\$4.4 million SASPP contribution. SASPP also supported efforts to strengthen the national system's ability to respond to shocks, including providing technical assistance to 14,000 Cameroonian refugee households with a one-time cash transfer of CFAF 45,000 per household member. The WB also supported the implementation of productive inclusion measures for 30,100 beneficiaries (9,030 refugees and 21,070 hosts), of which 30,000 were women. The WB launched a qualitative evaluation of the productive inclusion package implementation to identify options to improve the design and implementation in new regions and for refugees. In terms of delivery systems, support has been provided to adopt digital payments (currently to 75 percent of its cash transfer and productive inclusion beneficiaries into the four new provinces). The transition to digital payment reduced delays in payments, with 90 percent of payments done on time. However, in regions where mobile phone coverage is



limited, the project is still relying on microfinance institutions to deliver transfers. Discussions are ongoing with mobile phone companies to increase network coverage. Finally, the WB team supported the digitalization of the GRM, resulting in increased timeliness of treatment, with 85 percent of complaints resolved in a timely manner. The World Bank social safeguard team is providing technical support to the government to ensure GBV issues are properly addressed within the GRM system. Currently, all the staff under PARCA have attended training on GBV and are fully aware of the issue. Recruitment of a dedicated GBV specialist is ongoing within PARCA to ensure that GRM is gender sensitive.

**In FY24, the team will provide support to the government's plan to implement a national program and strengthen the systems required for its delivery at scale.** The team will conduct a mid-term review of the project to draw lessons to improve the project implementation and inform future support to the national ASP agenda. The process evaluation of the adaptive cash transfer and the impact evaluation of the productive inclusion interventions will also provide insight for the preparation of the new project.

### **BUILDING BLOCK 3:**

#### **Finance**

**The finance building block is the least developed one in Chad and faces the most hurdles to progress.** While government spending on social protection remains very low and the fiscal space is limited, there is a clear commitment to both regular safety net programs and shock-responsive cash transfers (also reflected in the government's request for a new operation). The WB team will seize these opportunities to advance the dialogue on finance and disaster risk financing (DRF).

**In FY24, the team plans to assess insurance systems for the informal sector and rural population to understand better how to account for the existing risk-covering mechanisms while designing the DRF strategy discussed below.** Results from this study, as well as analysis supported under the Data and Information building block, will provide a basis

to engage in policy dialogue with the government on how to promote financing and sustainability of ASP in Chad. In addition, in collaboration with the CDP, the team will support the government of Chad in designing a risk-financing strategy, building a planned assessment of risks and existing national disaster risk financing landscape, and identifying the primary action areas to advance on risk financing in Chad.

### **BUILDING BLOCK 4:**

#### **Data and information**

**In FY23, support has primarily focused on the social registry, leading to the development of a new platform, expected by the end of FY24.** Currently, 16 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and UN agencies have provided data to the RSU using the harmonized questionnaire. The new platform will facilitate data sharing as well as the systematic collection of information in all provinces of the country. Regarding the EWS, the study on the institutional landscape of the EWS mentioned under the institutional building block identified a few key elements, including the limited resources of most of the information providers as well as the fact that the specialized systems in charge of monitoring the main risks of shocks (drought, floods, insecurity, markets) are currently insufficient for decision making. Currently, only the collection systems supported through SISAAP are functional and provide information regularly. Additional analyses focused on improving the understanding of food and nutrition security are also expected to help strengthen the Harmonized Framework analyses and improve the planning of shock response.

**In FY24, the team will support the finalization of the social registry platform and its preparedness for deployment to the whole country.** The team will continue its support to the SISAAP to strengthen the EWS and decision-making process. The activities will also include a vulnerability mapping exercise and the development of early drought indicators to strengthen the EWS' inputs into the Cadre Harmonisé (with the CDP).

## BOX 10 SHOCK RESPONSE IN THE SETTING OF FORCED DISPLACEMENT: A NEXUS HUMANITARIAN-DEVELOPMENT-PEACE APPROACH

**The context of forced displacement in Chad makes the response to shocks more complex and calls for an integrated approach to meet the multiple needs of poor and vulnerable populations.** The scale of needs and the limited resources available raises the question of how to ensure the synergy of interventions while optimizing resources and limiting duplication. The ASP response has highlighted the importance of an approach that prioritizes the development-humanitarian-peace nexus for greater effectiveness. A complementary approach to humanitarian interventions has been adopted to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable populations, with a single cash transfer to meet primary needs and promote the development of income-generating activities. These synergies range from institutional capacity-building in refugee management to coordination, data sharing, and operational collaboration.

**Among the Cameroonian refugees, SASPP provided an emergency cash transfer to 23,294 households by cell phone (CFAF 45,000 per household member for refugee households and CFAF 120,000 per household for host community members) on the basis of information provided by Chad's National Commission for the Reception and Reintegration of Refugees and Returnees (CNARR) and UNHCR.** With the construction of health centers in refugee camps, the project has also established a strong collaboration with humanitarian actors (UNHCR, UNFPA, and IRC) to improve access to basic social services for refugees and host communities.

**This fruitful collaboration within the framework of ASP interventions has enabled the health centers built by PARCA in the Guilmei and Kalambari camps to become rapidly operational through the deployment of health personnel and the supply of medical products necessary for the functioning of these health centers.** This successful experience in responding to shocks has made it possible to establish the link between the objectives of resilience (through cash transfers) and of improving access to basic social services. The health centers have also contributed to strengthening social cohesion among refugees and host community since the facilities are shared by all those who live in the area, irrespective of their refugee status.

**Further reflection is needed to understand the success factors and constraints associated with this integrated approach.** On the basis of a multi-risk, multi-actor analysis, the aim will be to better understand the right combination of humanitarian and development interventions in a context of forced displacement (that is, the right timing of the various interventions, collaboration, and synergy between actors; coherence in the modalities; data, parameters, and sequencing of interventions; and so on).



## 4.3 MALI

### ASP World Bank Engagement in Mali

#### **SASPP activities in Mali are anchored in the Emergency Social Safety Net (Jigisemejiri) project, approved in 2013.**

The objective of the project is to build an adaptive national safety net system and increase access to targeted cash transfers. The Jigisemejiri project has established the building blocks of an ASP system through an initial IDA grant topped up by two additional financings (total financing of US\$134.4 million, including US\$12.4 million from the SASPP MDTF). The Jigisemejiri project has successfully provided regular safety net assistance to 103,540 households (including cash transfers, labor-intensive public works, and income-generating activities), as well as shock-response cash transfers during the lean season to nearly 30,000 households. In addition, it supported nearly 12,000 public works beneficiaries and provided 27,997 beneficiaries with income-generating activities grants. The program is nationwide (Kayes, Koulikoro, Sikasso, Ségou, Mopti, Tombouctou, Gao). The project also supported the establishment of a key component of a social safety net system through the creation of the social registry (RSU). As of December 2022, the RSU included 1.1 million households. The system was used by the government to deliver Emergency Cash Transfers to 400,000 beneficiaries by mobile means from early 2021 to July 2022. The Jigisemejiri project is scheduled to close on June 30, 2023.

### Changes in ASP context during FY23

**Political instability, the COVID-19 pandemic, and security issues have slowed the government's progress in putting the ASP building blocks in place.** The challenging environment complicates advancements in some of the ASP building blocks. While the institutionalization of the RSU represents

an important step toward making it the single-entry point for social programs—including social protection programs and other programs targeting the poor and vulnerable—advancements in other areas of institutional arrangements and partnerships have become more difficult, given the political instability. Instability has also affected the implementation of the Emergency Social Safety Net operation and associated analytical activities. Pauses in disbursement were decided as a result of the two coup d'états (August 2020 and May 2021), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) sanctions, and the non-payment of arrears to the World Bank (disbursements paused from August to November 2020 and May to September 2021 and were suspended February to July 2022). Also, the COVID-19 pandemic and increasing insecurity have limited the government's ability to implement some of the planned activities. In this challenging environment, the team started preparations for a new operation, the proposed Support to the Adaptive Social Security Net System project (P174451), which is now tentatively scheduled for World Bank Board approval during FY24. Its objective is to strengthen the national adaptive safety net system and increase access of poor and vulnerable households to targeted cash transfers and accompanying measures.

**Projections for the food security situation for the 2023 lean season are slightly better than in the previous year but remain dire.** It is projected that from June to August 2023, 1,183,337 individuals will be in the crisis phase, corresponding to 5.31 percent of Mali's population, while an estimated 4,090,567 individuals, or 18.35 percent of the population, could be in the emergency phase. For comparison, these numbers were 1,841,067 individuals (7.7 percent) and 4,411,105 individuals (20.33 percent) in 2022, respectively. The displacement of population groups linked to insecurity continues in the regions of Mopti, Gao, Ségou, Tombouctou, and Ménaka. As of December 31, 2022, an estimated 400,000 individuals were internally displaced.

## Key ASP developments and SASPP activities

**Given the multitude of crises that Mali is facing, having a comprehensive and adaptive social protection system in place that can be swiftly and efficiently extended in times of crisis remains Mali's vision.** This requires both improved coordination between the actors involved as well as supporting elements of the delivery chain, the two elements of focus of the WB support. In terms of coordination, the team is focusing its efforts on strengthening coordination around the development of the RSU, particularly with WFP, and strengthening government capacity through training and workshops on the RSU. In terms of supporting elements of the delivery chain, the team is focusing on the RSU and payment mechanisms, which are both critical to the delivery of regular programs focused on resilience and to the scaling up of shock responses to address climate-related shocks. Indeed, the RSU is essential to identify vulnerable populations. The institutionalization of the RSU has been a significant step in working toward having a single-entry point to identify beneficiaries of social programs. In December 2022, a workshop was organized to inform and sensitize actors on the RSU, its content, and uses in order to increase its use and acceptability by all actors. In its effort to enable a swift and efficient response, the team has also focused on supporting the government in setting up mobile payments, which can facilitate a social protection response even in areas affected by insecurity (avoiding that payment agents need to travel with large amounts of cash, which could make them vulnerable to attacks). While implementing financing mechanisms for adaptive social protection is a key element of the system, the current political climate and economic situation in Mali make discussions around financing particularly challenging. To date, the team's focus has been on putting in place the delivery mechanisms through which future financing can be channeled rather than on building a financial strategy.

**Despite the challenging environment, the overall project, as well as analytical and technical assistance tasks, have progressed toward its development objectives and remain highly relevant.** In FY23, technical assistance to the government has focused specifically on the data and information building block and the programs and delivery

mechanisms building blocks of the SASPP framework. Given the uncertainty surrounding the approval of the follow-up project, less emphasis was placed in FY23 on technical assistance on the safety net programs themselves. Instead, the focus on the data and information pillar will inform elements that the pipeline ASP project could support. The pause in disbursement also affected the team's ability to engage with actors such as WFP and UNICEF, though their resumption provided an opportunity to resume the discussion on establishing a common action plan (which will include activities such as training, workshops, studies, reforms, and so on). These constraints, and the closing of the Jigisemejiri project at the end of FY23, led the team to focus on completing core scheduled activities, and there was no spending on Recipient-Executed activities under the ASP during FY23.

**In FY24, the team will continue to focus on the data and information building block and, to the extent possible, on the institutions and programs and delivery systems building blocks.** Activities planned for FY24 might need to be adjusted during the year, in light of potential changes to the political environment (a referendum on the new constitution is planned for June 2023, and presidential elections are programmed for February 2024), as well as the operational environment (the status of the pipeline ASP project). At this stage, the team envisions the following work program for FY24. Under the institutions building block, the team will continue to raise awareness for the RSU, for example, through workshops addressing an audience beyond government and partners. On the data and information system, the team will focus on the input sides of an ASP system through the completion of an in-depth study of the institutional arrangements of the Early Warning System and a regional study on early drought indicators (input into the ASP system). Under the programs building block, the team wishes to understand the role of the regional and local committees better, which play a crucial role in the targeting of social safety net beneficiaries. Finally, in the financing building block, in collaboration with CDP, the team will support a regional study on a DRF diagnostic for ASP and a regional study on national contingency funds as part of the SASPP regional analytical program, focusing on lessons learned from various national contingency funds in the region.



## Detailed SASPP activities

TABLE 8

## Summary activities and outputs for SASPP engagement in Mali

BUILDING BLOCKS	FY23 ACTUAL ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS	FY24 PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS
<b>INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS</b>	Supported the Conseil National de la Sécurité Alimentaire, de la Nutrition et de la Protection Sociale. Participated in a panel discussion on shock-responsive social protection (learning from the COVID-19 response programs).	
	Supported the elaboration of the decree instituting the RSU, signed in December 2022.	
	Sponsored workshop participation of government official at Berlin conference on ASP, June 2023.	Support the elaboration of the new social protection policy for stronger integration of the concept of adaptive social protection in the country policy.
<b>PROGRAMS AND DELIVERY SYSTEMS</b>	Evaluated NGOs implementing income-generating activities and NGOs implementing accompanying measures to understand their performance, the quality of their service, and the satisfaction of participants.	
	Created blog/presentation on digital payment study.	Produce video for further dissemination.
	Conducted quantitative evaluation of the impact of making women the beneficiaries of cash transfers in Koulikoro (also under human capital pillar).	Disseminate findings and discussion of implications for program design.
	Conducted qualitative research to understand the experience of social safety net beneficiaries regarding access to the health assistance system. Organized workshop with actors from the health (hospital directors, MoH, the National Agency for Health Insurance) and social protection sectors.	Disseminate main findings from the study of access to the health assistance system. Continue dialogue with WB health team on synergies.
		Potentially conduct study on the role of the regional and local committees in the targeting of beneficiaries, depending on context.
<b>FINANCE</b>	Drafted public expenditure review (PER) (FY22). Planned dissemination in FY23 was postponed.	
		Conduct regional study (as part of the pillar on shock-response mechanisms) focusing on lessons learned from various national contingency funds in the region.
		Facilitate dialogue on innovative mechanisms of financing shock-response interventions.
<b>DATA AND INFORMATION</b>	Organized a workshop to inform and sensitize the actors on the registration of households in the RSU. Supported the development of a data-sharing protocol for the RSU.	Continue efforts to raise awareness of the RSU (including through the organization of workshops by the Working Group on Social Protection and Food and nutritional security, which includes humanitarian actors) with wider audiences (beyond governments and development partners) to include researchers and universities with an interest in using anonymized information from the RSU for analysis. Conduct technical study on what the operational framework for updating mechanism for the RSU based on other country's examples.
		Support the revision and adoption of operational documents for RSU and communication for its greater usage.
	Kicked-off study on the institutional arrangements of the EWS.	Finalize study on the institutional arrangements of the EWS. Regional study on early drought indicators.

## BUILDING BLOCK 1:

### Institutional arrangements and partnerships

**During FY23, SASPP supported several initiatives to strengthen coordination between government-led interventions and financial and technical partners.** In addition to the March 2020 memorandum of understanding between the Jigisemejiri program (specifically, the project implementation unit UTGFS) and the WFP, interagency working groups implemented their work plans focused on resilience-building and shock response, targeting, and the alignment of harmonized (or common) questionnaires. The SASPP team continued its support to the Conseil National de la Sécurité Alimentaire, de la Nutrition et de la Protection Sociale by participating in (or facilitating) workshops on learning from the COVID-19 response programs and on shock-responsive social protection more broadly. The team has started the discussion on the development of an annual work plan (and budget plan) that aligns and coordinates the support provided by key partners—including the WFP, UNICEF, and the World Bank—to the government in the sector of adaptive social protection, though the political instability and related breaks in disbursement have made this task more difficult.

**In terms of institutional arrangements and policy, the team supported the institutionalization of the RSU and will support the new strategy.** In addition to the technical support to the registry described under building block 2 below, the team provided support to the institutionalization of the RSU, which culminated in the decree establishing the RSU (*Décret 2022-276/PT-RM*, signed in December 2022). The team will also support the elaboration of the new national social protection policy to promote a stronger integration of the concept of adaptive social protection in the country policy. This will build on the support to the participation of government officials in various events to help them understand the approach adopted in other countries in the region and beyond (including participation in the ASP conference in Berlin in June 2023).

## BUILDING BLOCK 2:

### Programs and delivery systems

**In FY23, the team supported a technical evaluation on the delivery of core elements of the safety net program by NGOs.** The evaluation focused on analyzing the performance of NGOs that implemented income-generating activities and accompanying measures for the safety net program, evaluating the quality of their service, and understanding the participants' satisfaction. The evaluation helped rank NGOs and will facilitate the selection process for future activities. Overall, beneficiaries were generally satisfied with the performance of all NGOs, which were able to implement the activities even in areas with security issues. This highlights the usefulness of engaging with NGOs in fragile contexts, and lessons will inform regional learning on fragility. In FY24, if the situation on the ground permits, the team hopes to conduct a study on the role of regional and local committees in the service delivery chain, including their role in the selection of beneficiaries (community validation is the last step of the process). Additional potential activities, such as the revision of the human capital accompanying measures, will depend on the potential preparation of a new project and will be coordinated with the Human Capital Pillar presented earlier. In FY24, the team will also prepare a video to disseminate the findings of the digital payment studies finalized in FY22 (blog and presentation published in FY23).

**The building block also supported an evaluation focused on understanding the differentiated effects of providing transfers and income-generating activities to men or women.** This analysis, also included under the ASP and Human Capital pillar, emphasized that labeling cash for household welfare increases the acceptability of making a woman the recipient. Also, even if female recipients often handed out most of the cash to their husbands, they were more likely to be involved in decision-making about the use of the funds and general household expenditures (while when transfers are given to a man, his wife is not involved in its allocation). However, the analysis also confirmed that providing resources is not sufficient to empower women. While they were responsible for deciding a larger share of the money, women in households with a female beneficiary were also more likely to agree with the statement that men should be solely in charge of decision-making in the household. The

presumed mechanism is that women face very strong social norms and constraints. Also, the analysis shows no impact on the measure of intimate partner violence, consistent with the fact that the intervention only changed the nominal recipient. The team will further disseminate the findings and implications that interventions need to address further constraints (such as the context or social norms) to affect women's empowerment. In FY24, the team will finalize the analysis and publish the findings in the SASPP technical paper series.

**In FY23, the SASPP supported the analysis of the government's effort to provide safety net beneficiaries with access to health care.**

Climate change is increasing the frequency of health-related shocks, which can lead vulnerable households to engage in negative coping strategies. To prevent these and promote human capital accumulation, the government put in place mechanisms to provide access to non-contributory health insurance to the social safety net beneficiaries. A qualitative study was undertaken to assess beneficiaries' knowledge of their rights and their ability to use health insurance. It highlighted significant implementation challenges. First, many beneficiaries did not receive the card that would allow them to access free health services due to a lack of coordination between the National Agency for Health Insurance and the safety net program. Many of those who received the card had forgotten about it or lost it at the time of the study. Another challenge was the difficulties in effectively accessing free services. In April 2023, these findings were used as an entry point for a closer collaboration with the WB health team and presented during a workshop bringing together actors from the health (hospital directors, MoH, National Agency for Health Insurance) and social protection sectors. In FY24, the team plans to publish key results and continue their dissemination, including to other SASPP teams who envisage mechanisms to provide health insurance to safety net beneficiaries.

### **BUILDING BLOCK 3:**

#### **Finance**

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Discussions on the overall financing of adaptive social protection have been constrained by the security situation in Mali, as well as the ongoing economic and political climate. As a result, the dissemination of the FY22 public expenditure review, which focused on government and humanitarian

spending on social protection, initially scheduled for April 2023, was postponed. The team has therefore decided to focus more strongly on advancing other ASP building blocks and will resume these conversations once the conditions are more favorable.

In the meantime, in FY24, the team will focus more narrowly on financing mechanisms for shock response. It will support the implementation of a regional study, led under the pillar on shock-responsive mechanisms presented above, focusing on lessons learned from various national contingency funds in the region. This study, and the development of an ASP financial analysis tool, would provide inputs to enrich the discussions with the government and partners.

### **BUILDING BLOCK 4:**

#### **Data and information**

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**Following several years of advocacy and technical meetings, the use of the RSU is becoming a requirement for lean season response.**

Following the adoption of the presidential decree mentioned earlier, the RSU working group (including UNICEF, WFP, WB, and the EU) has supported its institutionalization and operationalization. An important change was the decision by the government's food security agency to make using the RSU a requirement for all actors involved in the national response plan to ensure better coordination. Overall, as of December 2022, the RSU includes information on 1.1 million poor households, two-thirds of which have up-to-date information (data was collected at most three years earlier). Support from the SASPP was also critical in facilitating a data-sharing mechanism between WFP and the RSU. As a result, WFP used the RSU questionnaire when collecting data in 12 communes where it operates. The collection of the same variables by different actors facilitates both the expansion of the RSU (adding the data collected in WFP intervention areas) and the potential for its updating (using WFP's data collection to update data already in the RSU where intervention of the government and WFP overlap). In FY24, the team will continue to strengthen the dialogue between the government and partners, including raising awareness for the RSU. This will include a workshop on the RSU targeting a wider audience, in particular researchers and universities that could be interested in using anonymized versions of the RSU database for socioeconomic analyses.

The team also plans to support the elaboration of procedures that support the regular updating of the information to ensure that the RSU remains a solid base for targeting social programs. Additionally, expanding the RSU coverage, particularly into shock-prone areas, is required to ensure it can serve as a tool for shock-responsive programs.

**In FY23, the team launched a study of the institutional arrangements of the EWS.** The study will provide a mapping of key actors and predominant synergies between the EWS on food security and adaptive social protection in Mali. This analysis builds on the brief review of the processes followed by the EWS to gather data undertaken in FY22. It will conduct a more in-depth analysis of the food security EWS institutional

framework to understand better the current and potential roles and linkages of key stakeholders and institutions and to identify data collection strategies used by different actors. The analysis will also determine what data is collected, including gaps as well as the information flows, and how it is and could be further utilized. The study is expected to be finalized in FY24. In FY24, the team also plans to support a regional study on early drought indicators under the leadership of the pillar on the climate shock-response delivery system (see above).







## 4.4 MAURITANIA

### ASP World Bank Engagement in Mauritania

The Mauritania SASPP activities are anchored in the Social Safety Net System Project II (implemented by the Taazour General Delegation), which seeks to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the nationwide adaptive safety net system and increase coverage. Building on the first Mauritania Safety Net System Project (P150430, 2015–20), the Social Safety Net System Project was approved in April 2020 with a budget of US\$72 million (including US\$7 million from the SASPP MDTF). A first additional financing of US\$13 million (funded by the SASPP MDTF) was approved in April 2021 to expand the 2021 lean season response in view of the lasting and overlapping effect of the COVID-19 pandemic. The AFD also put in place parallel co-financing in April 2021 (5 million Euros) and in November 2022 (2.5 million Euros) to support the shock response systems and transfers. The ASP agenda has also been supported by development policy operations, in particular, the establishment of the Institutional Shock Response framework in 2021 and a risk financing mechanism in 2022. The team will prepare additional financing, which includes support from the SASPP MDTF. It is expected to support the government's efforts to expand the social registry, strengthen the shock response system, and implement its disaster risk financing agenda. Finally, the team has worked closely with the IMF, which as a result, is an advocate for the expansion of the social registry and the national safety net program, Tekavoul, as key instruments to reach and support the most vulnerable.

### Changes in ASP context during FY23

Mauritania is facing a confluence of challenges with growing poverty (the COVID-19 crisis led to an increase in poverty to 6.3 percent in 2022), significant inflationary pressure due to the global commodity price increase, increased vulnerability to climate change, and growing regional insecurity. These challenges could affect the country's fiscal space in the coming years. At the same time, Mauritania's growth accelerated in 2022 (5.2 percent, up from 2.4 percent in 2021). It could average 6.2 percent between 2024–25 with the onset of gas production, which may have positive impacts on the government's fiscal space. In the social protection sector, the government has launched the update of the National Social Protection Strategy, which has mobilized several technical and financial partners (including WB, WFP, UNICEF, l'Agence Belge de Développement-Enabel, and German Agency for International Cooperation [GIZ]). This update incorporates dimensions of adaptive social protection and reflects the changes observed since 2016 in terms of targeting, financing, and institutional changes (including the establishment of medical coverage with Caisse Nationale d'Assurance Maladie), Taazour, the DCAN (Permanent Shock Response Framework, a national mechanism for prevention and response to recurrent and climatic shocks), and the risk financing mechanism, Fond National de Response aux Crises Alimentaire et Nutritionnelle (National fund for the response to nutrition and food crises, FNRCAN).

The 2022 lean season (FY23) represented one of the worst lean seasons since 2012 in Mauritania. In 2022, over 875,000 individuals were considered in crisis in terms of food and nutritional insecurity (20 percent of the population), more than double the number in 2021. This was a result of the 2021/2022 drought combined with global inflation. Mauritania also experienced some of its

worst flooding as a result of strong and erratic rainfall, which affected nearly 40,000 individuals. These shocks reaffirmed the importance of ASP in Mauritania and the need to expand the responsiveness of the system to shocks beyond food insecurity, such as floods. Despite the scale of the crisis, the coordination of technical and financial actors has enabled the coverage of all those in need with cash transfers as per the National Response Plan for the first time. This represents a strong buy-in for the ASP agenda and vision by the government and its partners. Finally, the presidential commitment to the regular safety net is reflected in the government's financing of the largest share of the program's cost. In 2023, the government financed about 75 percent of the regular safety net program, and in 2022, the government contributed to the cash transfer shock-response program Elmaouna for the first time, financing 26 percent of the overall Elmaouna response. However, some reservations have been expressed about the approach, highlighting the need for a more productive focus and greater engagement of beneficiaries. Taking these reservations into account will be critical as part of the ongoing support of the ASP system.

### Key ASP developments and SASPP activities

**The shift away from a dichotomy between humanitarian and development interventions toward a systemic and integrated approach is at the heart of the vision for ASP in Mauritania.** This shift is anchored in social protection tools and systems to support timely and efficient shock responses and build households' resilience. By 2025, the government of Mauritania should be able to support at least 20 percent of the population with a regular safety net and ensure the leadership of the shock response, aiming at supporting vulnerable households affected by food and nutrition insecurity in coordination with humanitarian actors. To achieve this vision, the World Bank team is providing technical assistance and investing in all four building blocks of an adaptive social protection system with a specific focus on institutionalization, sustainability, and financing.

**In FY23, World Bank SASPP support has focused particularly on five elements: shock financing instruments, social registry quality, supervision of the expansion of Tekavoul, and support to shock-response interventions and coordination and continued collaboration with partners.** In terms of finance, which was the least developed building block, support focused on the operationalization of FNRCAN,

the financial arm of the shock-response mechanism. For the social registry, efforts focused on updating the information in the registry (no updates had been made since its inception in 2016) and improving the targeting methodology. The launch of the full update of the social registry is combined with its expansion from 200,000 to 300,000 households (around 40 percent of the population), which is essential to ensure its relevance for shock response. In FY23, the government also increased the value of the cash transfer provided to beneficiaries of the regular program, Tekavoul, to increase its impact on resilience. Finally, significant efforts were made to scale up the response to food insecurity, nearly doubling its reach. These included: the first-time contribution of government resources to the response (by providing financing to the Elmaouna program), as well as a strong collaboration of partners (including WFP) around a common agenda and vision. Also, the team has collaborated with UNICEF to update the national social protection strategy and with UNHCR on the inclusion of refugees in the safety net (including in Nouakchott). Additional noteworthy elements are the government's commitment to facilitating access to basic services (including universal health coverage) and the integration of the refugee population into the national ASP system.

**In FY24, the team will maintain its focus on the FNRCAN and the social registry's update and expansion, and it will increase its focus on improving the early warning system and the shock response tools.** In addition to these technical elements, SASPP will also strengthen its advocacy on the broader safety net system, highlighting the role of the regular program in promoting household resilience and productivity and to contribute to economic growth, as well as its critical role as a platform for shock-response. Indeed, regular safety nets decrease households' vulnerability to shocks by building their resilience (and hence reducing the size of future responses). In addition, regular programs ensure the existence of delivery systems, which can be harnessed to implement shock response at scale. The team will also support an increased focus on productive aspects in order to further improve the program's impacts on resilience and growth.

## Detailed SASPP activities

TABLE 9

## Summary activities and outputs for SASPP engagement in Mauritania

BUILDING BLOCKS	FY23 ACTUAL ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS	FY24 PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS
<b>INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS</b>	Provided technical assistance to the DCAN to plan, implement, and evaluate the 2022 lean season response.	Continue to support the DCAN, particularly as it implements the 2023 lean season response and evaluates it, and to the preparation of the 2024 national response plan. Assist the government in the finalization of the DCAN Standard Operating Procedures as well as support the coordination of the various bodies previously established.
	Drafted and signed a new framework agreement between the Mauritania World Bank office and the Mauritania WFP office on ASP .	Develop the action plan to operationalize the agreement.
	Collaborated with UNHCR and the government on the identification and registration of refugee households in Nouakchott (previously, only refugee households in the Mberra camp were registered).	WB and UNHR will continue to work closely with the government on the monitoring of interventions. Support the continuous process of registration of new refugees and the application of individual questionnaires to adapt support to the needs of refugees based on their socio-economic condition in the camp.
	Supported, in collaboration with UNICEF, the update of the National Social Protection Strategy.	Continue to support the update of the strategy (participation in technical committee).
<b>PROGRAMS AND DELIVERY SYSTEMS</b>	Supported the implementation of the 2022 lean season response.	Support the implementation of the 2023 lean season response. Support the government in the adoption of the flood response manual. Assess Elmaouan and Tekavoul shock response modalities.
	Organized workshop to capitalize on the lessons learned from Action Against Hunger's (ACF) use of Taazour's payment platform for the lean season of 2022.	Support the government in improving and expanding the payment platform, based on the pilot use of the platform by ACF, to promote its use by any government and non-government actors in the future. Pilot digital payments in Nouakchott
	Supported restructuring and strengthening of the GRM. Implemented framework agreement with the Ministry of Social Action, Childhood and Women to develop a dedicated SEA/SH referral mechanism.	Pilot the GBV responsive GRM with Youth Employability Project and Ministry of Social Action, Childhood and Women in certain areas.
	Developed tools and training modules for Tekavoul's economic promotion accompanying measure.	Provide technical assistance for the rollout and implementation of the economic inclusion package.
<b>FINANCE</b>	Supported FNRCAN operational and financial aspects, leading to joint Ministry of Finance-Food Security Agency by-order (that is, <i>arrêté</i> 1312) approved in December 2022. With AFD, prepared the FNRCAN operational manual and assessment of alternative fiduciary arrangements to channel donors financing through the FNRCAN. Prepared an SASPP policy note on FNRCAN.	With AFD, support to the first use of FNRCAN. Support the completion of the manual for other national response plan activities (extend to food, nutrition, and livelihoods programs). Advocacy to promote contribution of additional partners. In collaboration with the African Development Bank Group (AfDB), support articulation with other financing instruments.
<b>DATA AND INFORMATION</b>	Provided technical assistance to estimate poverty at different administrative levels and develop poverty maps. Provided technical assistance to update social registry targeting methodology and procedures, including PMT.	Support updating and expanding the social registry and sensitizing potential users in different sectors. Support identifying mechanisms to update the social registry on a continuous basis. Pilot social registry household cards. Support implementation of a PMT formula to be calculated from the social registry (to be used by Tekavoul for selection of new beneficiaries).
	Trained needs analysis unit of the food security observatory (OSA) on updates to the food insecurity predictive model (FIFI). Developed a fully automated excel tool to produce predictions and training of OSA teams to run the FIFI model and analyze food insecurity predictions. Prepared a technical note on FIFI and support to inclusion of FIFI outputs in the Cadre Harmonisé.	Support use and maintenance of FIFI, including option to develop a web interface. Support the design of a targeted food consumption survey to be conducted during the 2023 lean season and the integration of data into the FIFI model. Support OSA in assessing the relevance and feasibility of extending food insecurity forecasts to large urban areas. Conduct study on drivers and variations of food insecurity in urban areas.

## SASPP supported (recipient-executed) and IDA projects/DPLs

**In FY23, the government's shock response program Elmaouna and the Tekavoul shock program reached 75,925 households (455,550 individuals)—over 50 percent of those in need—while humanitarian partners covered the remaining gap.** One of the worst lean seasons in the last decade occurred in 2022, with 875,000 individuals in crisis level of food and nutritional insecurity. Building on long-standing support and technical assistance from SASPP and partners, the Elmaouna shock-response program was able to double its previous coverage and reach 71,971 households (16,612 funded by the government budget, 4,075 by WFP, and 51,284 households—representing 337,311 individuals—by the Social Safety Net Project). Tekavoul also continued to pilot its vertical and horizontal expansion by reaching an additional 3,954 households. Overall, the WB Social Safety Net Project supported a total of 55,238 households, of which 17,801 (110,106 individuals, of which 61,793 were women) were funded by the SASPP/AFD. In terms of gender, 69 percent of Elmaouna direct recipients and 90 percent of Tekavoul recipients were women, bringing the number of women recipients supported by the Social Safety Net Project to 39,033 (of which 13,149 were funded by SASPP/AFD).

### BUILDING BLOCK 1:

#### Institutional arrangements and partnerships

**In FY23, SASPP support was centered around strengthening and operationalizing the national shock response framework (DCAN), which is responsible for coordinating the shock response.** Between 2012 and 2021, the response to food insecurity was coordinated through the food cluster groups. The response is now coordinated by the government. This represents an important shift toward a nationally led ASP system and a key objective of the SASPP support, which was to strengthen government ownership and its coordination role. Partners' continued support to the institutional strengthening of the DCAN translated into the implementation of a large-scale response during the 2022 lean season response, its evaluation, and the development of the 2023 lean season national response plan. Another aspect of the progress on this front was the government funding part of the 2022 national response plan for the first time (providing cash transfers to 16,612 households). Progress on the government's leadership and operationalization of the DCAN was made possible by the close collaboration between the WB team and WFP. Following

several years of collaboration on a common ASP agenda, the WB and WFP signed a new MoU in May 2023, covering the 2023–28 period and defining additional areas of joint engagement. In addition to the support to the institution for shock response, the WB collaborated with UNICEF and other actors to provide support to the government in updating the National Social Protection Strategy to fully reflect the elements of ASP and provide a strong anchor for future interventions. The strategy is expected to be approved toward the end of 2023. Finally, the WB continued its strong collaboration with UNHCR by supporting a joint effort with the social registry to collect the data of refugees in Nouakchott, whereas previously, the refugees in the Mberra camp had been registered.

### BOX 10 WFP-WB MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING IN MAURITANIA

**In May 2023, WFP and the World Bank signed a new Memorandum of Understanding to promote joint efforts to support the Government of Mauritania in building an adaptive social protection system.** This new protocol covers 2023–28 and follows the first protocol signed in January 2019, which ended in December 2022. The results of the first protocol have been very positive. It enabled fruitful cooperation on several fronts: (1) analytical: articulation of social safety nets, ASP stress test, predictive model of food insecurity, and so on; (2) institutional: creation of the DCAN, study tour in Senegal and Niger, capacity-building of ASP actors, and so on; (3) operational: use of the social registry to respond to shocks, coordinated support to refugees, joint support to the Elmaouna program; and (4) advocacy on ASP principles: joint policy dialogue, development of communication tools, joint recruitment of an expert, and so on. During the first protocol, collaboration was based on joint annual action plans, which were reviewed and discussed at bi-annual workshops and served as a reference for day-to-day cooperation between the teams. The new protocol keeps the established collaboration principles and introduces new areas (resilience activities and economic inclusion, gender, nutrition, institutionalization, and so on). The Mauritania protocols are in line with the Strategic Partnership framework signed at the global level in March 2018 between the two institutions, which aims at accelerating joint actions to support resilient populations in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



**In FY24, the SASPP program will continue to support the capacity building of the DCAN to play its leadership role fully.** This will include, among others, technical assistance for the development of standard operating procedures and support for the coordination of the various bodies previously established (including the needs analysis unit). In FY24, the team will also provide support to the government's capacity to respond to other shocks, including floods, likely to become more frequent and severe in coming years. The aim is ultimately to ensure that the government will be able to lead the process of shock response sustainably, with decreasing technical assistance from partners. Finally, the WB and partners will continue to support the update of the National Social Protection Strategy until its adoption in 2024.

## **BUILDING BLOCK 2:**

### **Programs and delivery systems**

**In FY23, this building block was among the most advanced and was considered at an emerging level of development.** Its focus has been on improving delivery systems, streamlining gender considerations, and preparing economic inclusion measures for households exiting the program. The national scale of the regular safety net program, Tekavoul (covering 100,000 households), and its ability to scale up vertically and horizontally (as discussed earlier) positions this building block as the most advanced in Mauritania. Hence, the effort has gone beyond the promotion of delivery at scale and has focused on more specific aspects. With a view to promoting the use of the common payment platform by all actors, the team supported (1) the capitalization of lessons learned from ACF's use of Taazour's payment platform for the 2022 lean season; (2) the continued dialogue with partners on the benefits of converging on a unique system; and (3) the conceptualization of a pilot to transition to a digital platform to improve performance. The current platform still struggles to provide timely transfers to households, and in FY23, just under 20 percent of lean season payments were done on time, though the program's rules are very stringent). In FY23, efforts were also made to improve the GRM, including developing a plan to combine GRMs for different instruments (the registry and Tekavoul) to improve the beneficiary experience. In terms of gender, the government focused on two elements. First, it prepared a framework agreement with the Ministry of Social Action, Childhood and Women to develop a dedicated sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment referral system (in

collaboration with the Youth Employability Project). Second, it continued the implementation of the family dialogue pilot, with results expected in FY24. Finally, building on the productive inclusion program piloted previously, the SASPP supported the development of an economic inclusion package, which would be provided to women in households exiting the Tekavoul program to ensure their sustained resilience.

**During FY24, SASPP support will focus on the enrollment of new Tekavoul beneficiaries, the deployment of economic inclusion support to those who exit the program, and the strengthening of shock-response delivery.** First, the SASPP will support the government's efforts in enrolling the next generation of Tekavoul beneficiaries. Following the registry update, around 20 percent of current beneficiaries are expected to become ineligible, and an equivalent number of new households will be enrolled for a five-year cycle (the overall beneficiary number will remain the same). Support will be provided for communication and sensitization to ensure that graduating households understand the process, particularly as other households will remain in the program. Second, the team will support the launch of economic inclusion activities offered to households exiting Tekavoul to promote a soft transition out of the program by strengthening their productive capacity and resilience. These activities will represent the first time a full cycle of the Tekavoul program is completed—from entry to exit and (re)enrollment. Finally, in addition to the institutional support mentioned under the first building block, the team will support the government in drafting the manual for responses to floods. It will also explore mechanisms to ensure the payment platform can be used by governmental and non-governmental partners and will pilot a digital payment approach in Nouakchott. The team will continue its collaboration with the Ministry of Social Action, Childhood and Women and the Youth Employability Project and pilot the GBV-responsive GRM in two regions for potential expansion, depending on the pilot outcomes. Finally, the WB will support the assessment of the performance of both the Elmaouna program and the Tekavoul shock-response program to evaluate their performance, ability to scale, and the political economy surrounding the programs.

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

**During FY23, SASPP support was focused on the operationalization of the FNRCAN and advocacy on its use.** Following its creation by decree in FY22, technical assistance was provided by the WB team (including the Disaster Risk Management unit), WFP, and AFD on detailed operational and financial aspects of the FNRCAN (including audit and reporting principles and disbursements practices). This work translated into a joint Ministry of Finance-Food Security Agency by-order (that is, *arrêté* 1312) approved in December 2022, which details the major operating principles of the FNRCAN. In addition, support was provided to develop the FNRCAN's operational manual. In parallel, the WB and AFD teams conducted an assessment of the various fiduciary arrangements that could be used to channel donors financing through the FNRCAN. A SASPP policy note recapping the FNRCAN experience was prepared to disseminate key findings and lessons to a wider audience. Key achievements in FY23 were the inclusion in the 2023 finance law of an allocation of US\$15 million to the FNRCAN (representing about 54 percent of the Food Security Agency's budget) and the commitment by the AFD of a contribution of 12 million Euros to the FNRCAN in addition to technical assistance to the Food Security Agency.

**The focus during FY24 will be on supporting the first experience of the use of the FNRCAN for the 2023 lean season.** This experience is expected to provide important technical lessons, which will be reflected as the use of the FNRCAN expands in subsequent years. During FY24, the team will also support the expansion of the FNRCAN manual to account for national response plan activities beyond cash transfers (the focus for the first year), including food, nutrition, and livelihood programs. During FY24, the team will also continue its advocacy and communication efforts to secure the continued mobilization of funds for the FNRCAN and mobilize contributions of additional partners. In collaboration with the AFDB, the team will also provide support to ensure appropriate articulation of the fund with other financing instruments, in particular climate-related insurance such as the African Risk Capacity Initiative (ARC).

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

**During FY23, significant support was provided to the social registry as well as the early warning system.** Technical assistance by the social protection and poverty teams of the WB supported the official launch of the registry's update and expansion (an update of the social registry is planned to take place every three years). Support focused on the estimation of poverty at different administrative levels (beyond the commune level) and the elaboration of a poverty map (presented during a workshop with the social registry and ANSADE in January 2023), which are used to determine the number of households to be included in the social registry per area (household quota). Support was also provided to improve the registry's targeting methodology and procedures. A new methodology was developed and tested in Inchiri, which combines an algorithm that attributes a score to each household based on their characteristics and possessions (based on a principal component analysis) with a community approach. Currently, the social registry includes 225,855 households, of which 43 percent have up-to-date records (less than three years old). The full update of the registry is expected to be completed in FY24, at which point it should include 300,000 households (100 percent with up-to-date records). In addition, the WB team provided technical assistance to update the PMT formula, which will allow the identification of the new Tekavoul beneficiaries. The team worked on a region-specific PMT to better account for each region's poverty profile and minimize exclusion and inclusion errors. In terms of the early warning system, the WB DRM and ASP teams have continued providing support to OSA's needs analysis unit (Cellule d'Analyse des Besoins). This included a capacity-building training in December 2022 on updates incorporated to refine the calibration of the predictive FIFI model. Also, a fully automated Excel tool was developed to produce predictions, and OSA's teams have been trained to run the FIFI model and analyze food insecurity predictions autonomously. A technical paper providing details on the mechanisms and estimations underpinning FIFI has been developed and published. For the second year, the FIFI contributed to the analysis of the Cadre Harmonisé to determine food security needs. Finally, in order to improve the government's ability to respond in urban areas, a study to understand better the drivers and variations of food insecurity in

urban areas was launched (carried out by Institute for Research and Applications of Development Methods and the French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development) and is expected to deliver results by Q1 FY24.

**In FY24, work will continue along these two lines, supporting the update and expansion of the registry and strengthening of the EWS.** During FY24, the team will continue to provide support to the registry's update and expansion, including a focus on communication and sensitization efforts to promote its use as the targeting tool for all social programs in Mauritania. This will include the organization of working sessions and dissemination activities with different sectors. The team will also support the government in exploring ways to update the social registry on

a continuous basis in the future. The WB will also support the implementation of the new PMT formula for the enrollment of the Tekavoul beneficiaries. On the early warning system front, the WB team will support OSA in exploring the feasibility of a web interface that could be fully migrated to an online server to facilitate the use and maintenance of FIFI. The team will also support the design of a targeted food consumption survey, expected to be conducted during the 2023 lean season, and the integration of collected data into the FIFI model. Finally, based on the study of drivers of food insecurity in urban areas, the team will support the OSA in assessing the relevance and feasibility of extending food insecurity forecasts to large urban areas (Nouakchott, Nouadhibou).

## BOX 12 MAURITANIA'S SOCIAL REGISTRY UPDATE

**Mauritania is one of the first countries in the region to achieve national coverage of its social registry (SR).** The first generation of the SR relied on a combination of geographical targeting and community selection process. The quota of the population to be included by locality was determined by the poverty rate. The communities, through general assemblies, were fully responsible for selecting the households to be included in the registry.

**In 2023, the government launched the second generation of the SR.** There are two key changes: The registry will increase its coverage, and the methodology will not only rely on community selection. The coverage is expected to increase from about 200,000 to 300,000 households, which is about 40 percent of the population. The inclusion methodology has also been improved, with the objective of limiting potential inclusion and exclusion errors. The new methodology includes several steps:

- **Geographical targeting:** The number of households to be included in the SR in each region is determined by the estimated poverty rates at the locality level.
- **Scoring:** A short questionnaire, which includes questions on housing, assets, and livestock, is administered to all households in a locality. A score, based on the methodology of Principal Component Analysis, is then attributed to each household. The score allows households to be ranked based on observable characteristics that reflect the level of poverty and vulnerability. Based on the quota by locality, households with the lowest score are registered within the SR but only up to 80% of the quota.
- **Community targeting:** The next step in the targeting process is community selection. General assemblies are held in each commune, in which the list of households selected through the scoring process is restituted. The community is then given: 1) the possibility to replace up to 20 percent of the list (if one household is considered as not poor, it can be removed and should be replaced by another one) and 2) the responsibility to add the remaining 20 percent of the quota. The general assembly then validates the final list.
- **Questionnaire:** Once the list is validated, a questionnaire, including different socio-demographic characteristics of households, is administered to those to be included in the SR.
- **Verification processes:** There are two data verification processes that occur after the list is validated: (a) the SR undertakes a mission to address any claims or complaints made and (b) a spot check is conducted, which verifies satisfaction with the process but also the accuracy of the data based on a sample of respondents.

A discussion is underway between the government and partners to update the RS in a continuous manner. A discussion is underway between the government and partners to update



## 4.5 NIGER

### ASP World Bank Engagement in Niger

**The SASPP support in Niger is embedded in the Niger Adaptive Safety Net Project 2 (ASP2), which was approved on January 3, 2019 with IDA financing of US\$80 million and became effective in June 2019.** The ASP2 (P166602) builds on the first Niger Safety Net Project, which established the main building blocks of an adaptive safety net system and closed in 2018. The ASP2 aims to improve the capacity of the Niger adaptive safety net system to respond to shocks and increase access of poor and vulnerable households to the safety net system. The ASP2 received Additional Financing (AF) in 2021 in the amount of US\$130 million, of which US\$30 million was from SASPP, in response to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and to enable it to continue to strengthen the capacity of the adaptive safety net system. The ASP agenda in Niger is further strengthened by two additional and complimentary projects: the Youth Employment and Productive Inclusion Project (P163157) and West Africa Unique Identification and Regional Integration and Inclusion Project (P169594). The objective of the first project is to expand income-generating activities for youths in selected poor areas in Niger following the productive inclusion model developed and evaluated under the SASPP. The second project aims to provide all citizens within a country with government-recognized proof of unique identity to facilitate access to services, including their enrollment in the country's Unified Social Registry supported under the ASP2.

### Changes in ASP context during FY23

**The political context in Niger is relatively stable, particularly compared to neighboring countries: Niger experienced a peaceful transition of power in 2021 with a democratically elected president.** The security situation, however, has

deteriorated rapidly since the beginning of 2023, resulting in significant forced population movements in the Tillabéri and Tahoua regions. Niger has experienced insecurity and fragility since 2014 as a result of the Boko Haram conflict at its border with Nigeria and the growing conflict in bordering Mali and Burkina Faso, with a total of 255,526 refugees and 361,593 IDPs. There was an increase in displaced populations between January and February 2023 due to increased violence and attacks from non-state armed groups. As of February 28, 2023, the number of displaced people in the Tillabéri region reached 139,051 IDPs, 41,187 refugees, and 25,632 Burkinabe and Malian asylum seekers. In the Tahoua region, more than 6,000 IDPs (2,570 households) were reported to have arrived since January. This increased insecurity and influx of refugees and IDPs aggravates an already precarious situation, as it increases the vulnerability of forcibly displaced populations as well as host communities. In addition, the growing conflict creates challenges in terms of accessibility in the western part of the country, further disrupting potential interventions.

**The effects of the worsening insecurity combined with the impacts of climate change continue negatively affecting food security for poorer and displaced households.**

Furthermore, despite progress made in recent years, poverty remains high in Niger, with two in five individuals (about 43 percent) living below the national poverty line in 2022. This corresponds to an absolute number of nine million poor individuals. While two million people are currently acutely food insecure (November–December 2022 period) in Niger, this figure is estimated to rise to nearly three million people during the 2023 lean season (OCHA). The total budget of the National Response Plan for 2023 is estimated at US\$440 million based on the needs determined by the Cadre Harmonisé. It should be noted that for the 2022 lean season, the government covered 43 percent of the needs in the National Response Plan, while partners financed the remaining 57 percent of the total required US\$437 million.



## Key ASP developments and SASPP activities

**In FY23, improvements were made across the four building blocks of an ASP system.** The vision in Niger is to establish an effective social protection system with broad coverage that can reduce structural poverty by breaking the intergenerational poverty cycle and increasing resilience to shocks. The national social protection policy provides a basis to work from to strengthen the already existing, albeit nascent, system. Strengthening the government's leadership and ownership is key to moving the system forward and rallying partners around it. Despite all the progress, significant challenges remain, particularly in terms of the system's ability to scale up services and interventions but also in terms of buy-in and ownership of the regular cash transfer program.

**FY23 has been important in terms of the introduction of new reforms and key activities to strengthen the national ASP system.** Developments across the four building blocks of an ASP system have moved the government closer to achieving its long-term vision. The coverage of the regular national cash transfer program under ASP2 was increased from 27,000 households to 60,000 households, providing monthly cash transfers of CFAF 15,000 per household over 24 months. Also, important progress has been made on the government leadership and data and information building blocks, and progress can also be noted on Finance and Program and Delivery Systems. In FY23, the government adopted a decree recognizing the role of cash transfers delivered via the national safety net system in response to food insecurity: Cash transfers are now considered a standard response modality of the national food security system to respond to food security shocks. This was also reflected in the rapid emergency drought response program, as cash transfers are being provided to affected households for the second year in a row. In addition, the government adopted the

decree establishing the Unified Social Registry as the basis for targeting all social protection interventions in the country. This process was supported by many actors, including the World Bank, UNICEF, WFP, and international NGOs working in the sector. The registry's operational manual stipulates an update at least every five years. The Ministry of Social Protection also launched the revision and update of the National Social Protection Strategy, which was first developed and approved in 2011. This process includes the support of all relevant humanitarian and development partners, and a clear road map has already been established. In terms of finance, the government signaled its commitment to developing a disaster risk financing strategy, an effort that is being supported by the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs in a workshop to raise awareness and launch the process is currently being prepared.

**During FY24, the progress achieved during FY23 and previous years will be consolidated.** It will see the realization and continuation of several pilots that are intended to lead to the simplification and increase efficiency of many procedures. There will be an increased focus on improving the delivery system to ensure it can adequately be scaled up with the increased coverage. As such, work on digital payments will continue with a pilot at the level of two communes of the capital and will be extended to other regions in case of a satisfactory evaluation of the process. The revision of the national social protection policy will also continue in consultations with partners with the objective of being completed in FY24. On the social registry front, the government will continue with the objective of registering 800,000 households by the end of 2024 (FY25), combining information from the existing database with new data collection in collaboration with the national statistical institute. The drought response agenda will also be highlighted with a focus on government leadership in rallying stakeholders around a single vision and model.



## Detailed SASPP activities

TABLE 10

## Summary activities and outputs for SASPP engagement in Niger

BUILDING BLOCKS	FY23 ACTUAL ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS	FY24 PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS
<b>INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS</b>	Organized under the leadership of the Social Safety Nets Framework of a governmental seminar for the dissemination of the results of the impact study of productive inclusion implemented by the national system.	Support the government in championing and mainstreaming adaptive social protection.
	Organized a joint WB-WFP-UNICEF management level workshop to create more synergies and pool efforts to strengthen the National Social Protection System.	Establish regular joint meetings and more consultation on joint government support.
	Facilitated regular meetings of actors around the government in the framework of the Interdisciplinary Working Group on Social Nets to discuss issues aimed at better-coordinating interventions in this sector under the leadership of the CFS.	Provide technical and financial assistance to the national safety net unit to allow better leadership and more coordination among actors. The unit will soon lead the organization of a national safety net week with various actors involved.
	Provided technical and financial assistance to the Ministry of Social Protection for the revision of the National Social Protection Strategy.	Provide technical support through the provision of a consultant and finalization of the revision process.
<b>PROGRAMS AND DELIVERY SYSTEMS</b>	Provided technical support from CGAP on the assessment and improvement of the payment system for the national Adaptive Social Protection Program (ASP2).	Evaluate the digital payment pilot and scaling up to additional areas.
	Assessed the GRM and the launching of a Green Line pilot for the national system.	Assess the GRM Green Line pilot and extension of its project coverage.
	Assessed GBV aspects and better inclusion in daily project activities through technical assistance.	Evaluate the extent to which GBV aspects are taken into account in project activities and evaluate the management process.
<b>FINANCE</b>	Established through the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs of a technical committee to prepare the first disaster risk financing workshop with all concerned government actors and donors involved.	Continue to support the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs for the establishment of a DRF strategy.
	Supported the legal act that recognizes safety nets as a modality of response to food insecurity crises.	Make efforts to improve the dialogue between the food crisis response unit and the social safety net unit for more collaboration and synergy.
<b>DATA AND INFORMATION</b>	A shock response committee led by the National Food Crisis Response Framework coordinated and organized partners' intervention through one common vision by using satellite data to determine the most affected areas. A technical review of the satellite-based trigger mechanism was conducted.	Conduct a comprehensive review of the early drought response pilot program, including a review of the trigger and operational modalities. This will also include an integration of the expected results of the impact evaluation on early drought response to maximize the effectiveness of the response.
	Adopted a decree to operationalize the national Social Registry and define its organization, role, and technical specifications.	The team will work on a legal act to bring all related sectors in the government to use the SR database as the main targeting source.
	Validated the Operational Manual of the Unified Social Registry by its technical and steering committee and technical assistance for its construction (through development of its MIS, deployment strategy, effective cost analysis, data protection plan).	Provide continuous technical support to the SR unit to make sure it successfully launches its initial data collection, MIS and achieve to protect personal data.
	The Social Registry Unit organized parliamentary workshop to make a pledge and better explain the importance of a national social registry.	Support the SR unit in creating awareness around it and make it the unique targeting tool for all SP interventions.

## SASPP supported (recipient-executed) and IDA projects/DPLs

**The second cycle of the cash transfer for resilience program was launched during FY23 providing regular assistance to about 60,000 households.** Households are included in the program for two years and benefit from regular cash transfers, accompanying measures, and economic inclusion activities. The drought response pilot, Programme pilote de réponse aux sécheresses, which is managed by the CFS located within the National Framework for the Prevention and Management of Food Crisis, was also activated for a second year. With this system, payments can be provided four to five months earlier than through the traditional humanitarian response. The pilot was first launched in 2021 when the trigger threshold was met at the end of that rainy season, and the steering committee presided by the coordinator of the CFS decided to scale up the safety net in four communes, providing support to 15,200 households throughout the calendar year 2022, with 7,200 households supported under the SASPP financing. The trigger threshold was met again at the end of the 2022 rainy season. Monthly emergency cash transfers are being provided to 5,000 households in two communes in 2023, 1,100 financed under the SASPP trust fund. UNICEF and WFP are also piloting an early response with some alignment: UNICEF used the same satellite data trigger and provided the same benefits (value and duration) as the government system. WFP used both the satellite data trigger and the results of the Cadre Harmonisé for targeting its intervention areas and aligned modalities but used its own delivery system. The approach is being evaluated through an impact evaluation together with World Bank's Development Impact Evaluation team and Oxford University.

### BUILDING BLOCK 1:

#### Institutional arrangements and partnerships

**The revision of the National Social Protection Strategy led by the Ministry of Social Protection was one of the key areas of work under this building block in FY23.** The existing strategy was elaborated in 2011 and has not been revised since, and hence does not account for the progress made in the ASP sector. It also does not adequately address the current social protection institutional landscape, which remains somewhat fragmented, with various social protection programs and responsibilities distributed across different ministries. The WB is supporting the government in the policy review process while encouraging a more inclusive approach. As part of the Interdisciplinary

Working Group on Social Nets, the CFS organized technical and consultative meetings with safety net actors and partners as part of its efforts to increase coordination in the sector. Another achievement, made possible by prior development policy operations (P178423), was the recognition by decree (Arrêté no 0195 PM of October 13, 2022) of cash transfers as the response modality to support food insecure households in the National Response plan. Finally, to support the government in its effort to increase its leadership better, WB, WFP, and UNICEF organized a joint workshop with the country representatives of the three agencies involved to create more synergies and pool efforts to strengthen the national strategy. The workshop led to strong commitments to increasing collaboration on strategic supports that could be given to the government to enhance the ASP system development using the building blocks as the basis. The three agencies agreed on providing joint support to the government on the: (1) establishment of a robust Social Registry and the overall MIS for its ASP system, (2) the revision of the national social protection policy (including the action plan) and support for the formulation of a capacity-building program as a common basis for stakeholder engagement (including the use of stress testing for the shock response component), (3) organization of a workshop on risk and disaster financing to support the development of a multi-year financing strategy linked to the revision of the national social protection policy, and (4) facilitation of a programmatic dialogue on responding to shocks based on the results of the drought cash pilot, systematically taking into account local sensitivity to shocks, nutrition, and children in all social safety net programs.

**The WB team will continue to provide technical support for updating the National Social Protection Strategy throughout FY24 until completion.** In addition, the CFS launched consultations around the organization of a social safety net week in Niger for the first time. The WB task team will support the government in this endeavor, particularly in terms of communication on the government's social safety net activities and supporting government leadership.

### BUILDING BLOCK 2:

#### Programs and delivery systems

**A major achievement by the government in FY23 was the launch of the second cycle of the regular Cash Transfer for Resilience program, with the enrollment of 60,000 households for two years.** This represents a significant

scale-up from the first cycle, more than doubling the number of beneficiary households. This second cycle will also benefit from various technical improvements, including a digital payments pilot to beneficiaries supported by CGAP in urban areas in two communes. Following an evaluation of the GRM, a recommendation was made to introduce a free-of-charge phone line—the Green Line—to complement already existing village-based complaints committees. A pilot of the Green Line was launched in two regions with encouraging preliminary results. These technical improvements are important milestones for the ASP2. Continued government leadership and close monitoring will be required to turn them into tangible results for beneficiaries. Besides the regular Cash Transfers for Resilience program, the drought response pilot program was implemented in FY23, as described above. Finally, the government, through the ASP2, undertook an assessment of GBV, and recommendations were elaborated to ensure the integration of mitigation measures throughout program activities. Among the recommendations are: (1) Making the Grievance Redress Mechanism more sensitive to the grievances related to gender and GBV, (2) Establishing the Green Line for listening and counseling the victims of such violence, and (3) developing and implementing a Code of Conduct on GBV.

**In FY24, the team will continue to support improvements to the delivery system.** The pilots of the digital payment and the Green Line will be conducted and evaluated. Depending on the results of these pilots, they will be scaled up to additional project areas. In the meantime, the preparation of the third cycle of the Cash Transfers for Resilience program has started with the identification of the communes where the activities will be deployed. In addition, the Cash Transfers for Resilience program is closely coordinating with the SR for the data collection in those selected communes. The third cycle is programmed to include 30,000 households. An action plan based on the recommendations of the GBV assessment was developed, and implementation will begin during the F24, including contracting a specialized NGO to oversee the mainstreaming of GBV aspects in the program by training, sensitizing project staff and populations, and monitoring the cases that may arise. A code of conduct will also be developed, disseminated, and signed by all the actors involved in the program implementation. Various sensitization campaigns will also be organized on GBV and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/Sexual Harassment (SH/SEA).

### **BUILDING BLOCK 3:**

#### **Finance**

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**Although progress has been slow, a technical committee to lead government-internal discussions on DRF was established in FY23 with the technical assistance of the WB team, ultimately aiming to develop a DRF strategy.** The Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management is leading the technical committee with the perspective of organizing the first DRF workshop, including all implicated government actors and external partners.

**The political process for the development of the DRF strategy will continue throughout FY24.** Depending on the outcomes of the process and the envisioned strategy, the World Bank team stands ready to provide needed analytical and technical assistance. In addition, the World Bank team will raise awareness around the strategy and its importance among the various actors. The objective is to ensure that the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs fully assumes its leadership role in this initiative and has the technical tools required to advance. Moreover, discussions of an adequate shock financing approach will also play an important role during the intended comprehensive review of the drought response pilot program. As the pilot becomes more institutionalized, adequate financing arrangements will have to be put into place. Depending on the outcomes of the review, the World Bank team stands ready to provide technical assistance on needed analytical outputs, as well as to support the institutional formation process.

### **BUILDING BLOCK 4:**

#### **Data and information**

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**For the drought response pilot, a shock-response committee led by National Food Crisis Response Framework coordinated partners' interventions using satellite data to determine the communes that are most affected.** Alongside these efforts, an Operational Manual for the Social Registry defining the technical parameters that should govern its use and its global vision was drafted and validated by the members of its technical steering committee. The Social Registry Unit also prepared a data collection exercise that should allow the data of about 800,000 households to be collected and validated between FY23 and FY24. This will



help broaden the geographic coverage of the registry. A deployment strategy is under development to aid this effort. The strategy will clarify how the social registry will prioritize geographical areas for data collection and the way it will deploy over time. Additional technical analysis, such as a cost analysis for the operational phase of the data collection and data protection strategy aligned with the national authority in charge of personal data protection policy, are also being conducted to support the social registry in reaching a certain maturity level, cost-effectiveness, and robustness. The WB team is providing significant TA for the development and establishment of the social registry system. An important part

of the support is the development of its MIS, which will house the full database of the registry and allow for interoperability, coordination, and communication with partners will be. The process for the recruitment of the firm that will develop the platform is underway and will continue over the next FY.

**Building on lessons learned from two years of operation, the drought response pilot will undergo a comprehensive review in FY24 (see Box 13).** The data collection for the Unified Social Registry will also launch in FY24, following the deployment strategy developed in FY23. The MIS is also planned to be completed in FY24.

### BOX 13 LESSONS LEARNED FROM TWO YEARS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EARLY DROUGHT RESPONSE PILOT PROGRAM

**In 2021, Niger's government launched a pilot drought-response cash transfer program.** The pilot uses a satellite-based Water Requirements Satisfaction Index (WRSI) to detect localized droughts early, and it provides rapid cash support to affected households three to five months earlier than traditional relief programs. After a mediocre 2021 agricultural season, the satellite trigger threshold was reached in four communes in October 2021, triggering emergency response payments to 15,200 households throughout 2022. The trigger was met again in October 2022, triggering scale-ups in two communes.

#### Several lessons have been learned:

1. The trigger for initiating cash transfers is being refined to improve timing and accuracy: Analysis suggests effectiveness gains can be made by changing the underlying data source or observing the index earlier during the season.
2. Planning ahead helps avoid delays: Response activities such as identifying beneficiaries and making payment arrangements should be concluded in advance.
3. The approach needs to be further integrated into national systems: Early drought response should be integrated with the national food security response system (the annual Plan de Soutien) to align objectives and optimize coordination. A dialogue to this effect is underway, and on October 13, 2022, the government adopted *Arrêté* no 0195 PM, designating cash transfers as a standard shock response modality to shocks.
4. The response program can operate as a platform for others: Opening the response program to partners such as WFP and UNICEF can lead to greater scale and efficiency. Such coordination took place around the triggering and design of the intervention during the first two years in an ad-hoc fashion, and a collaborative approach is planned to be adopted ex-ante.
5. Building evidence of the impact of early response is critical: A randomized controlled trial is underway, in collaboration with the University of Oxford, to evaluate different modalities. Preliminary results indicate that intervening early carries significant benefits.

**The pilot is taking these lessons onboard for the subsequent phases of the pilot.** A comprehensive review is scheduled for FY24, focused on, among others, the technical design of the trigger mechanism, the selection of payment providers, the identification of beneficiaries, the design of modalities, the financing approach for shock response, and the coordination framework.

## 4.6 SENEGAL

### ASP World Bank Engagement in Senegal

**SASPP activities in Senegal are anchored in the Senegal Social Safety Net Project (Projet d'Appui aux Filets Sociaux) and its follow-on Adaptive Safety Net Project (Projet d'Appui à la Protection Sociale Adaptative).** The first project was approved in FY14 with an initial US\$40 million IDA allocation and benefitted from three additional financings, bringing the total budget to US\$218.5 million (of which US\$41.1 million was from the SASPP MDTF). With support from this first project, the Government of Senegal established the foundations of a well-functioning social protection system. The government has also taken on nearly complete financial responsibility for its social protection system, which stands among the most developed in West Africa and the Sahel region. This degree of development was supported by years of technical assistance and innovation through the SASPP. As of today, the government is fully reliant on its own budget to finance the regular cash transfer program, and IDA funds are contributing to the strengthening of the safety net system. The Adaptive Safety Net Project (approved in July 2022 with a US\$100 million IDA grant) has the objective of strengthening the country's adaptive social protection system on the foundations built by the first project. ASP reforms are also supported by the development policy operations on Equitable and Resilient Recovery, which includes a reform sequence to "institutionalize and consolidate the national social protection system" (prior action 2, P175293). The team has also collaborated with the IMF so that the 2023 IMF program, which supports reforms aiming at the elimination of energy subsidies, also includes safety net measures to compensate for the negative impact on the poor and vulnerable. These measures were defined in close collaboration with the World Bank in alignment with the Bank's support to the ASP agenda.

### Changes in ASP context during FY23

**During FY23, the government continued its institutional reform efforts in the social protection sector amid a busy electoral schedule.** Implementation was somewhat delayed by a busy electoral program, with the parliamentary elections held in July 2022 and the ongoing campaign for the presidential elections scheduled for 2024. Electoral dynamics also contributed to some social unrest, marked by strikes and sporadic street demonstrations. Nonetheless, progress was made in strengthening the institutional framework of the ASP system with the support of the series of development policy operations. The first phase of reforms in FY22 involved (1) the institutionalization, via presidential decree, of the RNU as the mandatory tool for targeting all social protection programs in Senegal and (2) the revision of the status of the National Solidarity Fund (Fonds de Solidarité Nationale, FSN) via presidential decree to formally mandate it as the shock response agency and anchor it in the Ministry of Community Development, National Solidarity, and Social and Territorial Equity (Ministère du Développement Communautaire, de la Solidarité Nationale, et de l'Équité Sociale et Territoriale, MDCSNEST), which is the ministry responsible for social protection. In FY23, two additional decrees (1) established the legal foundations of the Programme National de Bourses de Sécurité Familiale (PNBSF) and (2) updated the organization and operating rules of the General Delegation for Social Protection and National Solidarity (Délégation Générale à la Protection Sociale et à la Solidarité Nationale, DGPSN). The projects' institutional arrangements were revised to align with the revised structure. These reforms strengthen Senegal's social protection system by clarifying the roles and mandates of key agencies such as the FSN and the DGPSN and improving its sustainability.

**In 2022–23, Senegal was confronted by the compounding impacts of climate and economic shocks.** Severe floods between July and October 2022 caused extensive damage

to roads, houses, and crops in Dakar and other areas of the country. These occurred against the backdrop of rising food, fuel, and fertilizer prices, driven by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine. The inflation rate reached 9.7 percent in 2022, with food inflation spiking to 15 percent. Finally, potential spillovers from the growing regional instability and insecurity remain a source of concern. These overlapping shocks resulted in a worsening food insecurity situation. The latest Cadre Harmonisé estimates that over 1.4 million people will face a food crisis or emergency in July–August 2023, almost a two-fold increase from the 2022 lean season. The government responded to this challenging context by putting in place three shock-responsive cash transfer programs. First, emergency cash transfer programs were delivered to 17,000 households affected by floods in 2022. Second, an exceptional cash transfer (CFAF 80,000, about US\$150) was provided to 470,000 households registered in the Single National Registry (Registre National Unique, RNU) in response to the combined impact of COVID-19 and food inflation between May and October 2022. Third, based on its new mandate as the shock-response SP agency, the FSN provided its first cash transfers (CFAF 120,000) to address the food insecurity of 25,000 households in FY23. Notably, this is the first attempt at providing an early response to food insecurity in Senegal, ahead of the period of dire needs of July–August.

### Key ASP developments and SASPP activities

**The ASP engagement in Senegal focuses on strengthening the core delivery tools, increasing the efficacy and coverage of resilience-building programs, and improving the capacity to respond to shock, with a strong focus on climate-related shocks.** Since 2013, the Government of Senegal has made important progress in the development of an adaptive social protection system. The objective today is to consolidate further and enhance the core elements of the system by updating, expanding, and improving the quality of the social registry, thereby strengthening service delivery and improving the payment system and GRM. At the program level, the government piloted economic inclusion programs aimed at developing the productive capacities of poor households

and shock response programs in response to floods and food insecurity. The WB team engagement focuses on supporting the expansion of these programs and enhancing cross-sectoral coordination when relevant.

**During FY23, important steps in clarifying the institutional landscape were taken through the preparation and adoption of two decrees: (1) establishing the legal basis of the PNBSF and (2) clarifying the mandate and anchoring of the DGPSN.** Both decrees will facilitate the implementation and coordination of safety net activities and promote the sustainability of the ASP system. On system building, efforts focused on preparing the extension of the social registry and identifying the areas in which the registry needs to progress in the coming years. Regarding productive inclusion, the government scaled up the productive inclusion program nationally, and the WB team provided technical assistance for the preparation of the productive program targeting poor agricultural households. Finally, significant effort was dedicated to the shock response agenda. The team provided technical assistance to the FSN, supporting it in implementing, for the first time, a cash transfer program in response to floods and to prepare a response to food insecurity for the upcoming lean season. The WB team also promoted the coordination of FSN activities with the national response plans for both floods and food insecurity.

**In FY24, the team will work closely with the government to ensure that the implementation of the PNBSF program is consistent with the provisions of its decree.** Further efforts will be dedicated to the coordination between the MDCSNEST; the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Equipment, and Food Sovereignty (MAERSA); and the Ministry of Livestock for the joint implementation of the agricultural resilience program. The WB will also continue to promote coordination in the preparation and delivery of shock response activities to ensure timely implementation. Technical assistance will be provided to the FSN to strengthen the flood response component of the program. Finally, significant effort will be dedicated toward improving the MIS of the DGPSN and developing the MIS of the FSN.

Detailed SASPP activities

**TABLE 11**

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

BUILDING BLOCKS	FY23 ACTUAL ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS	FY24 PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS
<b>INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS</b>	Supported the government to draft a decree institutionalizing the PNBSF and updating the mandate and anchoring of the DGPSN.	Support the government in ensuring the PNBSF program and activities are consistent with the provisions of the decree signed in April 2023.
	Supported dialogue to better frame the roles of different institutions involved in the response to food insecurity.	Continue to support the coordination among actors involved in the response to food insecurity and climate shocks to improve the efficiency and timeliness of the response.
		Support policy dialogue to enhance collaboration between MDCSNEST and MAERSA for the agricultural resilience program.
<b>PROGRAMS AND DELIVERY SYSTEMS</b>	Supported the expansion of the Yokk Koom Koom program to 45,000 households nationwide.	Ensure smooth program implementation and timely delivery of cash grants.
	Supported the expansion of the agricultural resilience program to pastoralist areas (25,000 poor agricultural and pastoral households in 2023).	Ensure the timely delivery of cash transfers before the beginning of the rainy season and smooth coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture. In coordination with the Ministry in charge of livestock, develop accompanying measures tailored to pastoralists' needs.
	Supported the delivery of exceptional transfers to 470,000 households registered in the RNU to respond to the impact of COVID-19 and food inflation. An evaluation combining a household survey and a process evaluation of the payment was carried out.	Finalize and disseminate results of the evaluation, including options to improve the timeliness of payments. Lessons from the digital delivery will help assess mobile payment readiness in the context of the planned digitization of PNBSF payments.
	Supported the FSN in supporting 17,000 flood-affected households and preparation for response to food insecurity to be delivered in 2023 to 25,000 households.	Strengthen the operation manual to improve timeliness and coordination with other stakeholders.
		Revise and broaden the topics covered by the accompanying measures of the PNBSF program (see also Human Capital pillar).
<b>FINANCE</b>	Launched a PER in coordination with UNICEF. Data collection has progressed, and a draft report has been prepared.	Finalize and disseminate results of the PER.
	Organized a study trip to Tunisia for the FSN to learn how the Tunisia Solidarity Bank addresses response to climate shocks.	Provide technical assistance to the FSN to ensure better financial preparedness to respond to climate covariate shocks. Stock-taking of financial mechanisms in place in Senegal.
<b>DATA AND INFORMATION</b>	Supported the preparatory activities for the expansion of the RNU, including training of local staff about the methodology to conduct community-based targeting (June 2023). Supported dialogue between the DGPSN and Senegal Statistics Office (ANSD) to ensure good coordination for extension of the RNU and to assess the cost-efficiency of alternative data-collecting methodologies.	Coordinate survey implementation with ANSD.
	Ongoing review of the MIS of the DGPSN and FSN.	Prepare road map for improving MIS and support the creation of monitoring modules, improvements in data safety, management and data sharing of the RNU data, and the strengthening of the payment platform and GRM system.
		Support the FSN to enhance its role in food insecurity response through the elaboration of an Operations Manual to guide the use of a satellite data-based trigger mechanism. Support the collaboration between the FSN and the Senegal Meteorological Office to improve the flood response mechanism and understand flood risk and early warning better.



### SASPP supported (recipient-executed) and IDA projects/DPLs

In FY23, the safety net project supported the government’s exceptional cash transfer program, which provided a one-off cash grant to 470,000 households (of which 75,200 are covered by SASPP) registered in the RNU to help them cope with the compounded effect of the COVID-19 crisis and inflation. Additionally, the social protection system was

leveraged to provide relief to households impacted by floods. A total of 17,000 households were assisted between September and December 2022 (of which 2,720 with SASPP support) (see Box 14 for details on the trigger mechanisms and their use of the national unique registry). The project also supported the national expansion of the productive inclusion Yokk Koom Koom program to 45,000 new beneficiaries in 2022. These households will receive a package of service and a cash grant that will be delivered between May and October 2023.

## BOX 14 IDENTIFYING BENEFICIARIES AND DEFINING AMOUNTS OF FLOOD RESPONSE SUPPORT USING THE RNU

Senegal’s FSN used ASP systems to provide support to households affected by floods. Support was provided to around 17,000 households across the territory (with 90 percent of beneficiaries in the regions of Saint-Louis, Dakar, and Diourbel most affected by floods). Support was provided through a pre-defined response mechanism with clearly defined procedures and parameters, resulting in a rapid response.

The program used two features to ensure that the poor and vulnerable received greater support: It established a maximum amount for the support (which is not proportional to damages and hence not proportional to the value of houses damaged) and defined different thresholds for the poor and vulnerable. The response mechanism provided support to all households who suffered from significant damages, with maximum support of CFAF 200,000 (around US\$330) per household. The program applied different thresholds to households who were registered in the RNU. Households in the registry received the minimum support when the level of damage reached 25 percent, while those not in the registry received support only when damages reached 50 percent (similarly, the threshold for maximum support was lower for registered households, see table).

**TABLE 12**

Trigger mechanisms—  
thresholds and amounts

Trigger mechanisms— thresholds and amounts	LEVEL OF DAMAGE (ACCORDING TO THE EVALUATION FORM)	VALUE OF SUPPORT (CFAF)	LEVEL OF DAMAGE (ACCORDING TO THE EVALUATION FORM)	VALUE OF SUPPORT (CFAF)
<b>HOUSEHOLD REGISTERED IN THE RNU</b>	Over 25%	100,000	Over 75%	200,000
<b>HOUSEHOLD NOT REGISTERED IN THE RNU</b>	Over 50%		Over 100%	

### BUILDING BLOCK 1:

#### Institutional arrangements and partnerships

During FY23, support from the WB task team centered on strengthening and streamlining the key institutional arrangements underpinning the adaptive social protection system. Central to these efforts was the technical assistance provided to draft the decrees giving legal anchoring to the PNBSF and modifying the organization and operating rules of the DGPSN. The decrees are a crucial step toward

strengthening the PNBSF. The decree creating the PNBSF put into law its key parameters, such as the eligibility criteria, duration, and entry and exit strategies of beneficiaries, thereby ensuring equitable access and sustainability moving forward. The decree revising the DGPSN’s organization and its anchoring to the MDCSNEST provides an important basis to clarify its role and mandate in relation to other agencies within the MDCSNEST, especially the FSN. While the establishment

of the FSN as the shock response agency in 2021 had created overlaps with DGPSN's initial mandate, the 2023 decree clarified that the DGPSN focuses on tackling chronic poverty and building resilience, while the FSN provides timely support to vulnerable households affected by shocks. During FY23, the team also supported the dialogue and coordination between ministries and agencies involved in shock response activities, including the SE-CNSA, which coordinates the preparation of the national response plan to food insecurity. As a result, this year was the first time the FSN prepared a cash transfer response to food insecurity coordinated with the SE-CNSA and is part of the national response plan.

**In FY24, the WB task team will continue supporting the clarification of the roles of the various stakeholders within the MDCSNEST.** This is especially important as the ministry is transitioning away from an implementation model led by NGOs to one leveraging its own decentralized services for the supervision and reporting of activities. The team will continue to promote coordination among the various local actors implementing social protection activities (DGPSN, Community Development Directorate, FSN). The team will continue providing technical assistance and capacity-building for improving the social registry, especially on the topics of data update, data management, and data sharing. Finally, the team will continue to promote collaboration between the MDCSNEST, the MAERSA, and the Ministry of Livestock for the implementation of the agricultural resilience program (see building block on programs).

## **BUILDING BLOCK 2:**

### **Programs and delivery systems**

**During FY23, the WB team supported the significant expansion of the productive inclusion programs and shock response interventions.** This building block stands as the most advanced of the four ASP building blocks in Senegal and the Sahel and is the closest to being considered established. This is due to the relatively wide coverage of the PNBSF (around 15 percent of the population), underpinned by functional and adaptive delivery systems. In FY23, efforts focused on strengthening and scaling up productive programs and shock-response programs. First, building on the demonstrated positive impacts of the first phase (supporting 15,000 urban households in 2018–19), the Yokk Koom Koom program was significantly scaled up to reach 48,000 households nationwide (18,780 households were supported overall by SASPP, 11,100 in

FY22, and 7,680 in FY23), including an expansion to rural areas. Beneficiaries were enrolled in October/November 2022; the delivery of trainings on life skills, micro-entrepreneurship, and cash grants are expected during 2023. Second, the Agricultural Resilience Program, dedicated to boosting the productivity of poor farmers, was extended for the first time to pastoral areas and fishing communities, considering the high vulnerability of pastoral areas to climate change. It will support 25,000 poor households between July and September 2023. Third, in FY22 and FY23, the government responded to the impacts of COVID-19 and food inflation by providing exceptional cash transfers to 472,000 households registered in the RNU (about 16 percent of beneficiaries with SASPP funding). Transfers were delivered digitally between May and February 2023, and an evaluation of the intervention was carried out (based on a survey of 3,000 beneficiaries, an analysis of monitoring and evaluation data, and a process evaluation including key stakeholder interviews and focus group discussions). Fourth, the safety net system was also leveraged to respond to climate-related shocks. The FSN provided cash transfers to 17,300 households affected by floods between August and December 2022 (of which 3,700 had support from the SASPP) and launched a cash transfer response to food insecurity to support around 25,000 food-insecure households in June 2023.

**In FY24, support will continue in these dimensions, with an additional focus on the national safety net accompanying measures.** First, support will be provided to the DGPSN to ensure the effective implementation of the whole package of the Yokk Koom Koom program, including ensuring the timely delivery of the cash grants. Second, under the Agricultural Resilience program, the team will support the coordination between the MDCSNEST, MAERSA, and the Ministry of Livestock to develop and implement measures for poor pastoralists. It will also work to (1) promote the timely delivery of the cash transfers before the start of the rainy season to maximize the program's impact and (2) tailor the measures to pastoral livelihood to reflect the different vulnerabilities faced by pastoral communities. Third, the team will finalize the evaluation of the exceptional cash transfer intervention to identify options to improve timeliness and extract lessons from the digital delivery. This last element is critical to assess mobile payment readiness in the context of the planned digitization of the PNBSF program payments. Fourth, in terms of support to the FSN, the team will focus on strengthening the

flood response operations manual to improve timeliness and coordination with other stakeholders (see also building block on Data). Finally, a new area of engagement centers around the broadening of the PNBSF accompanying measures to topics geared toward improving the beneficiaries' shock preparedness and financial inclusion, in addition to the current focus on health, education, and civil registration. The expanded measures may include ex-ante measures that encourage preventive behaviors to be better prepared to face climate shocks and sessions designed to promote the diversification of economic activities. This is linked to the planned pilot discussed under the human capital pillar above.

### **BUILDING BLOCK 3:**

#### **Finance**

**During FY23, the WB team supported the preparation of the social protection PER.** PERs provide detailed analysis of the structure of social protection spending, which can serve as a basis for policymakers to improve social spending and hence the fiscal sustainability of the social protection system. The draft PER includes an analysis of public expenditure trends, composition, and management, as well as the efficiency of public spending. In addition, to support the FSN's interest in exploring different financing options that would help the fund become more financially prepared to respond to shocks, the WB team is providing capacity-building on the topic of disaster risk financing. In FY23, this included support to an FSN study trip to learn about how the Tunisia Solidarity Bank deals with responses to climate shocks in terms of both programming and of financial planning.

**During FY24, the team will increase its focus on the finance building block.** First, the team will finalize the social protection PER and disseminate key results with a view to engaging in a high-level policy dialogue on ASP financing. Operationally, the WB team will keep providing technical assistance to the FSN to ensure better financial preparedness to respond to climate covariate shocks. A stock-taking of the financing mechanisms that are in place in Senegal to respond to shocks will be conducted. It will review fund availability, disbursement mechanisms, processes, and key stakeholders, among other criteria.

### **BUILDING BLOCK 4:**

#### **Data and information**

**During FY23, with the support of the WB, the DGPSN completed the preparatory activities for the extension of the RNU to one million households.** The DGPSN revised the operation manual clarifying the steps to be completed to ensure the extension and update of the dataset. The different delivery agents involved in the process have received training on community-based targeting and intake and registration processes. The DGPSN worked closely with the statistics office, ANSD, to refine the survey instruments and prepare a detailed implementation plan (the ANSD will also implement the population and housing census in 2023). Technical assistance to the RNU focused on improving the data collection methodology in coordination with ANSD and exploring the possibility of adding "on-demand" intake and registration methods. Finally, during FY23, the WB team provided technical assistance to the MDCSNEST on the strengthening of the MIS of the DGPSN and FSN. A comprehensive review of the MIS was conducted to inform a roadmap for its strengthening.

**In FY24, the team will continue its support to the social registry's expansion and MIS improvements.** Building on FY23 activities, technical assistance will continue to support the implementation of the RSU expansion in coordination with the ANSD. In FY24, based on the review of the MDCSNEST MIS, a roadmap will be prepared, focusing on the GRM system, the RNU, the monitoring and evaluation modules of the various program, and the payment platform. Based on the roadmap, the WB team will support the creation of monitoring modules for all the programs; the improvement of data safety, management and sharing of the RNU data; and the strengthening of the payment platform and of the GRM system. In addition, with a view to enhancing the FSN's role in food insecurity response, the team will support the elaboration of an Operations Manual to guide the use of a satellite data-based trigger mechanism (early warning system). Accordingly, the team will continue to monitor the food security situation in the months following the rainy season to assess needs and reflect the learnings in the design, implementation, and potential scale-up of the food insecurity response. The team will also support the collaboration between FSN and the Senegal Meteorological Office to improve the flood response mechanism and better understand flood risk and early warning.

# APPENDIXES

## APPENDIX 1 RESULTS FRAMEWORK

		END TARGETS						ACHIEVED	
		BASELINE		TARGETS					
				FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY22	FY23
<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
1.2	Degree of recognition of role of ASP in Disaster Risk Management in national policy or strategy documents [scale of 1-5]	2.33	3.00				3.00		
1.3	Number of countries where WB has an ongoing MoU with WFP and/or UNICEF	3	6	3	4	6	6	3	4
1.4	Number of governments who have committed own financing to shock response through ASP mechanisms	0	3	0	1	1	3	0	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
<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
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
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
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
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
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
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
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								
2.1	Annual number of households benefitting COVID-19 CT funded by SASPP		224,948	224,948	30,000	30,000		130,097	84,115
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
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
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
2.14	Annual number of children aged 0-5 benefitting from COVID-19 CT funded by SASPP							104,405	101,204
2.15	Annual number of individuals with disabilities benefitting from COVID-19 CT funded by SASPP							9,998	12,923
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
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
2.18	Cumulative number of technical and advisory outputs on productive inclusion funded by SASPP	0	6	4	6	6	6	4	10
2.19	% of payments that are digital (applies to all payments except where noted otherwise)	20%	36%	27%	29%	29%	36%	23%	33%
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%
2.21	Number of countries with shock-response mechanism informed by results from impact evaluations	0	3	0	0	1	3	0	0
2.22	Share of GRM complaints resolved in a timely manner (as per the operational guidelines, applies to all complaints except where noted otherwise)	68%	79%	61%	67%	72%	79%	79%	75%
2.23	Cumulative number of technical and advisory outputs on adapting to insecurity and forced displacement	0	14	8	12	14	14	8	13
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
<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
3.2	Degree of readiness of financing to ensure timely response to disasters [scale of 1-5]	2.00	2.8				2.8		
3.3	Cumulative number of technical and advisory outputs on risk financing	3	10	4	8	9	10	5	9
<b>4. DATA AND INFORMATION</b>									
4.1	Cumulative number of households in social registries	1,665,000	4,194,000	2,677,000	2,992,000	3,844,000	4,194,000	2,756,295	2,803,150
4.2	Number of households in the registry, relative to the number of poor households	39%	76%	50%	55%	72%	76%	52%	57%
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%
4.4	Cumulative number of technical and advisory outputs on adaptive social registries	7	22	11	14	20	22	11	15
4.5	Number of countries with second ASP stress test	0	6	0	0	0	6	0	0
4.6	Cumulative number of technical and advisory outputs on poverty and vulnerability	6	14	9	11	14	14	11	17
4.7	Degree of ability of national early warning systems to monitor and alert about one or more shocks [scale 1-5]	2.83	3.33				3.33		

Notes: \* maximum achieved for annual targets



## APPENDIX 2 SASPP FUNDING

### TABLE 13

Investment Projects Supporting ASP and Contribution from SASPP, Phases 1 and 2, 2014–23

	Parent Project ID	Project Name	Board Approval Date	Resource Allocation, US\$ millions			
				IDA	Government	SASPP	
						Phase 1	Phase 2
Burkina Faso	P124015*	Burkina Faso: Social Safety Net Project	Apr 2014	50			
	P160371*	Burkina Faso: Additional Financing for Social Safety Net Project	Dec 2016			6	
	P169252	Burkina Faso: Scale-Up and Responding to the Needs of Refugees and Host Communities	May 2019	100			10
	P173335	Burkina Faso: Third Additional Financing for the Social Safety Net Project	Jul 2021				30
Chad	P156479*	Safety Nets project	Sep 2016			5	
	P164748*	Chad: Refugees and Host Communities Support Project	Sep 2018	60			
	P172255	Chad: Additional Financing to Refugees and Host Communities Support Project	Sep 2020	75			6
Mali	P127328	Emergency Safety Nets project (Jigisemejiri)	Apr 2013	70			
	P157892*	Safety Nets Project (Jigisemejiri)	Sep 2016			10	
	P165064*	Safety Nets Project (Jigisemejiri)	Jul 2018	52			2.4
Mauritania	P150430*	Mauritania: Social Safety Net System Project	May 2015	15	10	4	
	P171125	Mauritania: Social Safety Net System Project 2	Mar 2020	45	20		7
	P175778	Mauritania: Additional Financing for the Social Safety Net System Project 2	Apr 2021				13
Niger	P155846*	Niger Adaptive Safety Net Project	Apr 2016	22.5		8.5	
	P166602*	Niger Adaptive Safety Net Project 2	Jan 2019	80			
	P173013	Niger Adaptive Safety Net Project 2 Additional Financing	Mar 2021	100			30
Senegal	P133597*	Senegal Safety Net Project	Apr 2014	40.5			
	P156160*	Social Safety Net	Aug 2016			11.05	
	P162354*	Senegal: Additional Financing to the Social Safety Net Project	Jan 2019	57			
	P173344	Third additional financing for Social Safety Net Project	Jun 2021	80			30
	P176544	Adaptive Safety Net	Jul 2022	100			
<b>TOTAL:</b>				<b>947</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>44.55</b>	<b>128.4</b>

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

TABLE 13

Status of Donor Contributions, as of June 2023 (Phase 2)

Customer Name	Currency	Amount in Country Currency	Amount in US\$	Contributions received	Contributions pending
United Kingdom— Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office	GBP	17,100,000	22,057,356	7,328,156	14,729,200
	USD		2,577,292*	2,577,292	
Wellspring Philanthropic Fund	USD	1,350,000	1,350,000	1,350,000	
France—Agence Française de Développement	EUR	6,000,000	7,026,000	7,026,000	
Germany— Bundesministerium für Wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit	EUR	130,000,000	153,444,150	153,444,150	
Denmark—Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs	DKK	230,000,000	34,676,350	21,516,146	13,160,204
<b>Total</b>			<b>221,131,148</b>	<b>193,241,744</b>	<b>27,889,404</b>

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

TABLE 14

Financial Status of Recipient-Executed Trust Funds, as of June 2023 (Phase 2)\*

Trust Fund Name	Grant Amount	Disbursements	Fund Balance
Burkina Faso: Scale-Up and Responding to the Needs of Refugees and Host Communities	10,000,000	9,998,070	1,930
Burkina Faso: Third Additional Financing to the Social Safety Net Project	30,000,000	13,602,372	16,397,628
Chad: ASPP RETF additional financing Refugees and Host Communities Support Project in Chad	6,000,000	6,000,000	-
Mali: Safety Nets Project (Jigisemejiri)*	2,400,000	1,122,269	1,277,731
Mauritania: Adaptive Social Protection	7,000,000	7,000,000	-
Mauritania: ASP additional financing	13,000,000	12,999,960	39.99
Niger: Adaptive Safety Net Project additional financing 2	30,000,000	1,989,186	28,010,814
Senegal: Safety Net additional financing	30,000,000	15,772,205	14,227,795
<b>Total</b>	<b>128,400,000</b>	<b>68,484,062</b>	<b>59,915,938</b>

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

### TABLE 15

Financial Status of Regional Bank-Executed Trust Funds, as of June 2023 (Phase 2)

Trust Fund Name	Original Budget	Commitments	Expenses	Available Budget
Human capital and Overall Regional Program	1,700,000	13,152	1,528,266	158,582
Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience	1,150,000	60,880	667,598	421,522
Shock-Responsive Social Protection	1,960,000	49,044	1,169,008	741,948
Productive Inclusion and Women's Empowerment	1,800,000	103,738	1,623,198	73,064
Fragility and Forced Displacement	1,250,000	60,971	1,175,597	13,432
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,860,000</b>	<b>287,785</b>	<b>6,163,667</b>	<b>1,408,548</b>

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

### TABLE 16

Financial Status of Country Bank-Executed Trust Funds, as of June 2023 (Phase 2)

Trust Fund Name	Original Budget	Commitments	Expenses	Available Budget
Burkina Faso	1,450,000	64,733	1,385,109	158
Chad	2,085,208	28,620	1,779,352	277,236
Mali	1,700,000	-	1,003,161	696,839
Mauritania	2,150,000	488,354	1,540,645	121,001
Niger	3,000,000	285,028	2,498,062	216,910
Senegal	1,600,000	529,044	1,034,491	36,465
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,985,208</b>	<b>1,395,779</b>	<b>9,240,820</b>	<b>1,348,609</b>

### TABLE 17

Financial Status of Management/Supervision Bank-Executed Trust Funds, as of June 2023 (Phase 2)

Trust Fund Name	Original Budget	Commitments	Expenses	Available Budget
ASPP Regional Coordination Management and Administration	3,099,000	123,707	2,969,542	5,751
Burkina Faso	400,000	106,978	259,604	33,418
Chad	300,000	-	191,603	108,397
Mauritania	550,000	245,384	273,151	31,465
Niger	450,000	-	449,003	997
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,799,000</b>	<b>476,069</b>	<b>4,142,903</b>	<b>180,028</b>

This "technical assistance and analysis" resources support the various analytical and technical assistance activities; "supervision" resources support the supervision of Recipient-Executed Trust Funds.

## APPENDIX 3 PUBLICATIONS

This list presents publications prepared during FY23. 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 FY23 (original publication date given in parentheses).

PUBLICATION CATEGORY AND NAME	COUNTRY/PILLAR
<b>SASPP POLICY NOTES</b>	
<p><b>Nakawala Lufumpa, Anne Hilger, Odysia Ng, and Bénédicte de la Brière:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SASPP Policy Note 9: Preventing Early Childhood Undernutrition in the Sahel Region: Recommendations for Small-Quantity Lipid-Based Nutrient Supplement Interventions (June 2023)</li> <li>Note Politique 9 du PPSAS : Prévenir la sous-nutrition durant la petite enfance dans la région du Sahel : Recommandations pour des interventions avec des suppléments nutritionnels à base lipidique en petite quantité (June 2023)</li> </ul>	Adaptive Social Protection and Human Capital Pillar
<p><b>Rafael Van der Borch, Oscar A. Ishizawa, and Matthieu Lefebvre:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SASPP Policy Note 8: Proactively managing the financing of food insecurity response: the Mauritanian FNRCAN experience (May 2023)</li> <li>Note Politique 8 du PPSAS : Financement du risque d'insécurité alimentaire – Une approche proactive : le Fonds national mauritanien de réponse aux crises alimentaires et nutritionnelles (May 2023)</li> </ul>	Mauritania and Climate-Shock Responsive Delivery Systems Pillar
<p><b>Nakawala Lufumpa, Anne Hilger, Odysia Ng, and Bénédicte de la Brière:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SASPP Policy Note 7: Protecting Human Capital from the Impact of Early Life Shocks. Key interventions for low- and middle-income countries (April 2023)</li> <li>Note Politique 7 du PPSAS: Protéger le capital humain de l'impact des chocs survenus en début de vie. Interventions clés pour les pays à revenu intermédiaire de la tranche inférieure (April 2023)</li> </ul>	Adaptive Social Protection and Human Capital Pillar
<p><b>Nakawala Lufumpa, Anne Hilger, Odysia Ng, and Bénédicte de la Brière:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SASPP Policy Note 6: Opportunities to Accelerate the Reduction of Childhood Undernutrition in the Sahel (March 2023)</li> <li>Note Politique 6 du PPSAS: Opportunités pour accélérer la réduction de la sous-nutrition chez l'enfant dans le Sahel (March 2023)</li> </ul>	Adaptive Social Protection and Human Capital Pillar
<p><b>Felix Lung:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SASPP Policy Note 5: Disaster Risk Financing: What It Is and What It Isn't for Adaptive Social Protection. Debunking Myths about DRF in the Sahel (November 2022)</li> <li>Note Politique 5 du PPSAS: Financement des risques de catastrophes : Démêler le vrai du faux pour la protection sociale adaptative au Sahel (November 2022)</li> </ul>	Climate-Shock Responsive Delivery Systems Pillar
<p><b>Pascale Schnitzer, Anne Della Guardia, and Milli Lake:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SASPP Policy Note 4: Targeting in Ultra-Poor Settings: Evidence from Six Countries in Rural Sahel (October 2022; originally prepared in November 2021)</li> <li>Note Politique 4 du PPSAS: Ciblage dans les milieux d'extrême pauvreté : Données recueillies dans les six pays du Sahel rural (October 2022)</li> </ul>	Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience Pillar



<p><b>Jonathan Lain, Stéphanie Brunelin, and Sharad Tandon:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SASPP Policy Note 3: Anticipating Large and Widespread Seasonal Deprivation in the Sahel (Originally published in November 2021)</li> <li>• Note Politique 3 du PPSAS: Au Sahel, la saisonnalité constitue un facteur de risque important mais qui peut être anticipé (Originally published in November 2021)</li> </ul>	Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience Pillar
<p><b>Stéphanie Brunelin, Aissatou Ouedraogo, and Sharad Tandon:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SASPP Policy Note 2: Five Facts about Shocks in the Sahel (Originally published in December 2020)</li> <li>• Note Politique 2 du PPSAS: Les chocs au Sahel en cinq points (Translated in 2023)</li> </ul>	Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience Pillar
<p><b>Rebekka Grun, Mira Saidi, and Paul M. Bisca :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SASPP Policy Note 1: Adapting Social Safety Net Operations to Insecurity in the Sahel (Originally published in November 2020)</li> <li>• Note Politique 1 du PPSAS: Adapter la mise en œuvre des filets sociaux à l'insécurité au Sahel (Translated in 2023)</li> </ul>	Fragility and Forced Displacement Pillar
<b>SASPP FLAGSHIP REPORT</b>	
<p><b>Corinna Kreidler, Sophie Battas, Karin Seyfert, and Mira Saidi (December 2022):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linking Humanitarian Cash Assistance and National Social Protection Systems</li> </ul>	Fragility and Forced Displacement Pillar
<b>SASPP ANNUAL REPORT</b>	
<b>Sahel Adaptive Social Protection Program: Annual Report Fiscal Year 2022 (September 2022)</b>	
<b>SASPP TECHNICAL PAPERS</b>	
<p><b>Amadiane Diallo, Line Le Teuff and Elisa Larcher (June 2023):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Le projet Yokk Koom Koom au Sénégal (Senegal's Yokk Koom Koom project)</li> </ul>	Senegal and Productive Inclusion and Women's Empowerment Pillar
<p><b>Thomas Bossuoy, Elisa Larcher, Line Le Teuff, and Patrick Premand (June 2023):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sept leçons opérationnelles des mesures d'inclusion productive dans le Sahel (Seven operational lessons regarding productive inclusion interventions in the Sahel)</li> </ul>	Productive Inclusion and Women's Empowerment Pillar
<p><b>Nakawala Lufumpa, Anne Hilger, Odysia Ng, and Bénédicte de la Brière, et al. (December 2022):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Life Shocks and Implications for Human Capital. A Review of Evidence from Low and Middle-Income Countries</li> </ul>	Adaptive Social Protection and Human Capital Pillar
<p><b>Ashley Pople, Patrick Premand, Margaux Vinez, Stéphanie Brunelin, and Stefan Dercon (October 2022):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impact Evaluation of Shock-Responsive Cash Transfers for Droughts</li> </ul>	Climate-Shock Responsive Delivery Systems Pillar
<p><b>Christophe De Jaegher, Aminou Tassiou, Issifou Alfari (July 2022):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cartographie des acteurs clés et des synergies prédominantes entre les systèmes d'alerte précoce sur la sécurité alimentaire et la protection sociale au Niger (Mapping of key actors and main synergies between early warning systems on food security and social protection in Niger)</li> </ul>	Niger
<p><b>Service du Système d'Alerte Précoce de la Direction Générale des Etudes et Statistiques Sectorielles (DGESS) du Ministère de l'Agriculture (Originally prepared in April 2022):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rapport de l'enquête sur la vulnérabilité alimentaire en milieu urbain (VAMU) (Report of the Urban Food Vulnerability Survey)</li> </ul>	Burkina Faso
<p><b>Loïc Colin (Originally prepared in March 2022):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Étude comparative des mesures d'accompagnement dans le cadre des projets de filets sociaux au Burkina Faso (Comparative study of accompanying measures in the framework of social safety net projects in Burkina Faso)</li> </ul>	Burkina Faso

<p><b>Gérard Bationo (Originally prepared in March 2022)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capitalisation de la réponse soudure 2021 au Burkina Faso (Review of the 2021 lean season response in Burkina Faso)</li> </ul>	Burkina Faso
<b>BLOGS</b>	
<p><b>Felix Lung (January 2023):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 myths about Disaster Risk Financing for adaptive social protection in the Sahel</li> <li>5 idées reçues sur le financement des risques de catastrophes (FRC) pour la protection sociale adaptative au Sahel</li> </ul>	Climate-Shock Responsive Delivery Systems Pillar
<p><b>Felix Lung, Snjezana Plevko, Mahamane Maliki Amadou, Mahamane Mourtala Sani (December 2022):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tackling food insecurity with satellites and cash: Five lessons from Niger</li> </ul>	Climate-Shock Responsive Delivery Systems Pillar
<p><b>Stéphanie Brunelin, Jonathan Lain (September 2022):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seasonal deprivation in the Sahel is large, widespread, but it can be anticipated and addressed</li> <li>Au Sahel, la saisonnalité constitue un facteur de risque important mais qui peut être anticipé</li> </ul>	Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience Pillar
<b>OTHER PUBLICATION TYPES</b>	
<p><b>Paul Blanchard, Osca Ishizawa, Thibaut Humbert, Rafael Van Der Borgh (May 2023)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working Paper: Struggling with the Rain - Weather Variability and Food Insecurity Forecasting in Mauritania</li> </ul>	Mauritania ; Climate Shock-Responsive Delivery Systems
<p>SASPP-supported Project Summaries (February–April 2023):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Burkina Faso (Social Safety Net Project)</li> <li>Chad (Refugees and Host Communities Support Project)</li> <li>Mali (Safety Nets Project – Jigiséméjiri)</li> <li>Mauritania (Social Safety Net Project 2)</li> <li>Niger (Adaptive Safety Net Project 2)</li> <li>Senegal (Social Safety Net Project and Adaptive Safety Net Project 2)</li> <li>SASPP Overview of a Multifaceted Partnership (April 2023)</li> <li>Brochure d'Information PPSAS (April 2023)</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Nik Nikam (production), Anne Hilger (storyline) (April 2023):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Video: Jigiséméjiri Program Mobile Money Transfers</li> </ul>	Mali
<p><b>Anne Hilger, Kalilou Sylla (with input from SOFRECOM consultancy, October 2022):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation: Beneficiary experiences with mobile cash transfers. Insights from a survey and qualitative data</li> </ul>	Mali
<p><b>Ange Kakpo, Bradford F. Mills, Stéphanie Brunelin (October 2022):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Journal article: Weather shocks and food price seasonality in Sub-Saharan Africa: Evidence from Niger</li> </ul>	Niger and Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience Pillar
<p><b>Mira Saidi (September 2022):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation: Linking Humanitarian Cash Assistance and National Social Protection Systems (Key findings on convergence of humanitarian and development action in ASP in the Sahel)</li> </ul>	Fragility and Forced Displacement Pillar
<p><b>Astou Camara (Bureau d'Analyses Macro Economiques, Sénégal) (Originally prepared in March 2022)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation: Inclusion des Populations Pastorales dans le Registre National Unique du Sénégal (Analysis of the development process of Senegal's National Unique Registry)</li> </ul>	Senegal