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Sahel Adaptive Social Protection Program

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



**SAHEL ADAPTIVE
SOCIAL PROTECTION
PROGRAM**

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ANNUAL REPORT 2020



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Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| Abbreviations | iv |
| Overview: 2019/20 | v |
| Chapter 1: Climate change, conflict, and COVID-19: The growing risk of shocks in the Sahel | 1 |
| Chapter 2: The Sahel Adaptive Social Protection Program | 5 |
| Chapter 3: SASPP regional program | 9 |
| Chapter 4: SASPP country programs | 23 |
| Chapter 5: SASPP phase 1 results framework | 49 |
| Chapter 6: Financial reporting for FY20 | 53 |
| Appendixes | |
| A: World Bank Group social protection response to COVID-19 | 57 |
| B: Phase 1 results framework | 59 |
| C: Definitions of score indicators | 62 |
| References | 65 |

Abbreviations

| | |
|--------|--|
| AFD | Agence Française de Développement |
| ASP | adaptive social protection |
| ASP2 | Niger Adaptive Safety Net Project 2 |
| BMZ | German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development |
| CFS | Cellule Filets Sociaux |
| FCDO | Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office |
| FCV | fragility, conflict, and violence |
| FY | fiscal year |
| IDA | International Development Association |
| IDP | internally displaced person |
| MDTF | Multi-Donor Trust Fund |
| M&E | monitoring and evaluation |
| NGO | nongovernmental organization |
| PARCA | Refugees and Host Communities Support Project |
| SASPP | Sahel Adaptive Social Protection Program |
| UNICEF | United Nations Children's Fund |
| WFP | World Food Programme |

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

Overview: 2019/20

CLIMATE, CONFLICT, AND COVID-19: THE GROWING THREAT FROM SHOCKS IN THE SAHEL

The Sahel region is home to some of the poorest countries in the world and struggles against suffers from multiple challenges involving rapid population growth, geographical and climate vulnerability, food insecurity, and a worsening security situation. Around 40 percent of the population live on less than \$1.90 a day. While the Sahel countries have among the youngest and fastest-growing populations globally—population sizes are expected to double by 2045—they also have among the lowest levels of human capital in the world.¹

The Sahel is highly affected by climate change, which reinforces prior vulnerabilities and undermines long-term development prospects and opportunities for a good future for the next generation. Climate shocks such as droughts are becoming increasingly frequent and severe, and are affecting more people; while shorter, more intense, and less predictable rainy seasons raise the risks of larger-scale floods. Climate change is a severe threat to livelihoods, with the majority of the poor living in rural areas and off the land. According to recent household survey data, more than 40 percent of households in the Sahelian region report suffering from climate shocks; these impacts more widespread among poor and rural households, which report having to resort to negative coping strategies such as reducing the quality and quantity of food, taking school-aged children out of school, and selling productive assets (Brunelin, Ouedraogo, and Tandon forthcoming). Climate shocks also pose impoverishing threats to nonpoor households and communities, and risk undoing hard-won poverty reduction gains.

¹ World Development Indicators, <https://datacatalog.worldbank.org/dataset/world-development-indicators>.

Finally, climate change exacerbates conflict and contributes to worsening fragility, resulting in increased forced displacement across the Sahel.

Like elsewhere in Africa, the COVID-19 pandemic triggered a deep, sustained social and economic shock in the Sahel that has reinforced climate change–related vulnerabilities. The shock hit urban populations first, impeding mobility and close contact, and hit fast and at scale—with profound social and economic outcomes and exacerbating an already heightened food insecurity risk. Given the global uncertainty around the spread of the virus, the Sahel faces the risk of a sustained shock over a lengthy period.

ADAPTIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION TO BOOST RESILIENCE TO SHOCKS

Adaptive social protection (ASP) is a critical tool to support national governments in developing systems to help poor and vulnerable households and communities better cope and become more resilient to climate change and other covariate shocks. The **adaptive approach** integrates social protection interventions with disaster risk management and climate change adaptation measures to better anticipate and respond to shocks. Emerging ASP systems in the Sahel help poor and vulnerable households build resilience, reduce the impact of climatic change and other shocks (such as the COVID-19 pandemic), and foster access to income-earning opportunities. Cash transfers as well as complementary **productive inclusion** interventions—like community savings and loan groups or life skills and entrepreneurship training for beneficiaries—help reinforce adaptive capabilities by helping households diversify their livelihoods. Drawing on climate early warning systems backed by disaster risk financing strategies, countries can anticipate climate-related events such as droughts, and quickly scale up cash transfers via their social safety net programs and thus provide an overall cost-effective response to increasing needs. ASP interventions also have the potential to improve social cohesion and reinforce relationships within and between communities as well as with the state.

THE SAHEL ADAPTIVE SOCIAL PROTECTION PROGRAM IN 2019/20

The Sahel Adaptive Social Protection Program (SASPP) was launched in 2014 to support the design and implementation of ASP programs and systems in six Sahel countries (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, and Senegal) with a specific focus on climate change. The program is funded by a

multidonor trust fund managed by the World Bank (Social Protection and Jobs Global Practice) and supported by donor contributions from the United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, the Agence Française de Développement, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, and the Danish government, which joined the program in 2020. The SASPP builds on strong partnerships with other development and humanitarian partners and is aligned with the goals of regional initiatives such as the Alliance Sahel.

In 2020, the program entered its second phase, with a refocused strategic objective of systematically strengthening ASP systems to enhance household resilience and expand the reach of shock response cash transfer programs. This annual report reflects the program's transition from phase 1 to phase 2 and presents completed phase 1 activities and phase 2 plans. Under phase 2 (2020–25), the SASPP focuses on both regional and country-level activities aimed at strengthening national ASP systems. The majority of SASPP financing will be disbursed in the form of direct grants to governments for piloting innovative ASP programs, embedded in the ongoing World Bank effort to strengthen adaptive social safety net systems through projects supported by the International Development Association. The remaining resources managed by the World Bank are used for technical assistance efforts in each country and for creating and disseminating knowledge and good practice lessons across countries. Initiated in 2019/20, regional themes span (1) analysis of poverty impacts of climate and other shocks, (2) the design of climate shock-responsive ASP programs and delivery systems, (3) building evidence on productive inclusion and women's empowerment programs, and (4) how to deliver social protection in contexts of fragility and forced displacement.

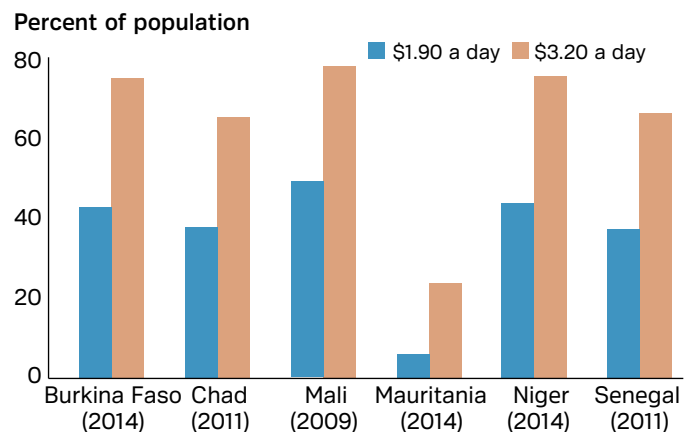
While the principal focus of the SASPP is climate shocks, the program in 2020 also started to extend support to countries in the Sahel to leverage their ASP systems to address the impact of the economic shock triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic. Countries have been expanding coverage of shock response cash transfers to households affected by the pandemic. The SASPP has been supporting this effort to provide needed relief in the short term via ASP systems—thus strengthening these systems and reinforcing their capacity to respond to future climate shocks in line with the SASPP's longer-term strategic objective.

1

Climate change, conflict, and COVID-19: The growing risk of shocks in the Sahel

Countries in the Sahel region are among the poorest in the world. Using a poverty line of \$1.90 per day, poverty rates are 49.7 percent in Mali, 44.5 percent in Niger, 43.7 percent in Burkina Faso, 38.4 percent in Chad, 38 percent in Senegal, and 6 percent in Mauritania (figure 1.1).¹ All six countries have some of the lowest Human Capital Index Scores in the world, ranking among the lowest 40 countries and hovering between 0.30 and 0.38—Senegal is the exception reaching a score of 0.44.² Chad at 0.30 has the world's second lowest score, only outranking the Central African Republic with a score of 0.29. The countries in the Sahel region are also among the most vulnerable countries to climate change in the world (Climate Centre 2018). Data show that the Sahel region is likely to experience rising temperatures at 1.5 times the global average rate (Niang et al. 2014). Climate change-related shocks like drought and floods are becoming more frequent and more intense, undermining hard-won development gains, poverty reduction efforts, and the accumulation of human capital. According to World Development Indicators, in the 25-year period between 1969 and 1994, 28.6 million people were affected by droughts, floods, and storms; in the next 25-year period, between 1995 and 2019, 54.5 million people were affected—a 1.9-fold increase in the human impacts from these shocks. The number of people affected

Figure 1.1 Poverty headcount ratios for Sahelian countries, latest year



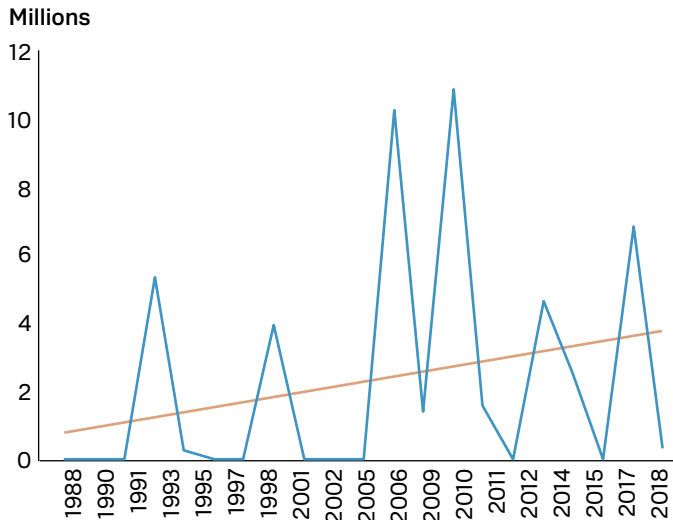
Source: World Development Indicators, <https://datacatalog.worldbank.org/dataset/world-development-indicators>.

Note: Ratios are calculated using 2011 purchasing parity power-adjusted dollars.

¹ World Development Indicators, <https://datacatalog.worldbank.org/dataset/world-development-indicators>.

² World Bank Human Capital Index; <https://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/human-capital>.

Figure 1.2 Number of people affected by drought in the six Sahel countries



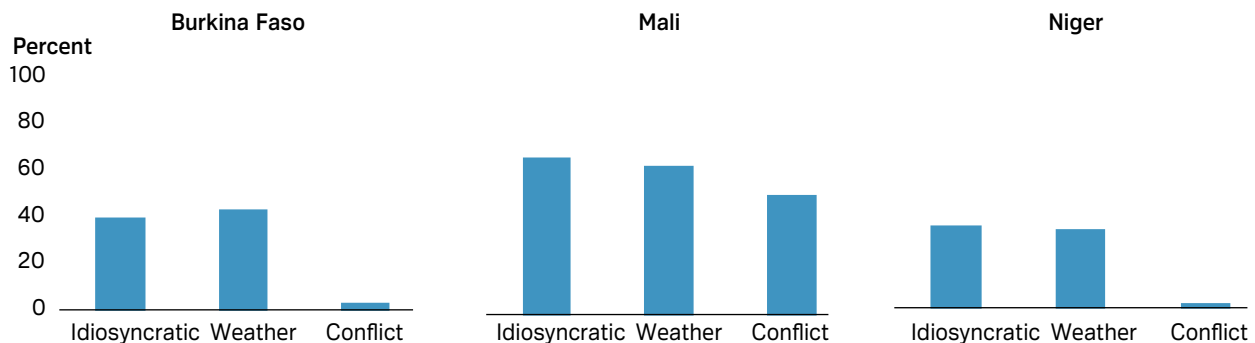
Source: EMDAT database (<https://www.emdat.be/>), accessed July 17, 2019.

by drought across the Sahel has been increasing over time (figure 1.2).

The Sahel is highly affected by climate change, which reinforces prior vulnerabilities and undermines long-term development prospects and opportunities for a good future for the next generation. Climate shocks such as droughts are becoming increasingly frequent and severe, and are affecting more people; while shorter, more intense, and less predictable rainy seasons raise the risk of larger-scale floods. In fact, September 2020 experienced unusually heavy rains, causing severe flooding across the Sahel with no less than 700,000 people affected (*UN News* 2020). Climate change is a severe threat to livelihoods, with the majority of the poor living in rural areas and off the land. According to recent household survey data, more than 40

percent of households in the region report suffering from climate shocks (figure 1.3). These impacts are more widespread among poor and rural households (figure 1.4), which report having to resort to negative coping strategies such as reducing the quality and quantity of food, taking school-aged children out of school, and selling productive assets (Brunelin, Ouedraogo, and Tandon forthcoming). Often, households are unable to recover assets lost during a shock, reducing their resilience against the next shock and placing them at risk of chronic poverty. Asset depletion and erosion can affect assets that uphold livelihoods (such as livestock) as well as human capital, as shocks can lead households to pull children out of school, thereby reducing their prospects in the long term (UN OCHA 2016). The Cadre Harmonisé (Harmonized Framework) projections for the 2020 lean season

Figure 1.3 Share of the population affected by common shocks in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger

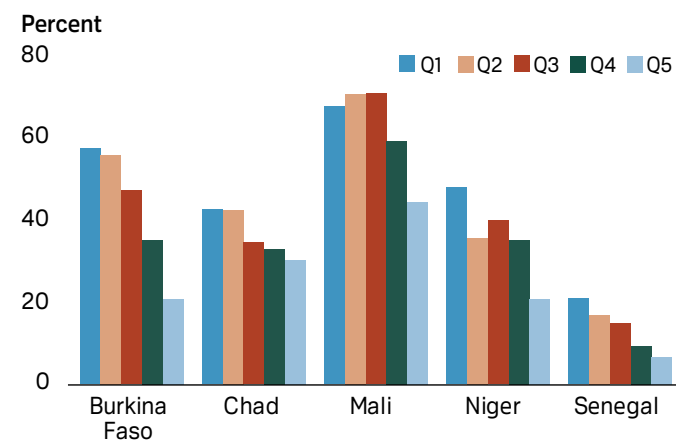


Source: Brunelin, Ouedraogo, and Tandon forthcoming.

prior to the onset of COVID-19, estimated that 7.2 million people across Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, and Senegal would be in need of assistance (i.e., Integrated Food Security Phase classification levels 3–5) (Cadre Harmonisé 2019). Moreover, these climate shocks are occurring against a backdrop of growing insecurity, fragility, and conflict.

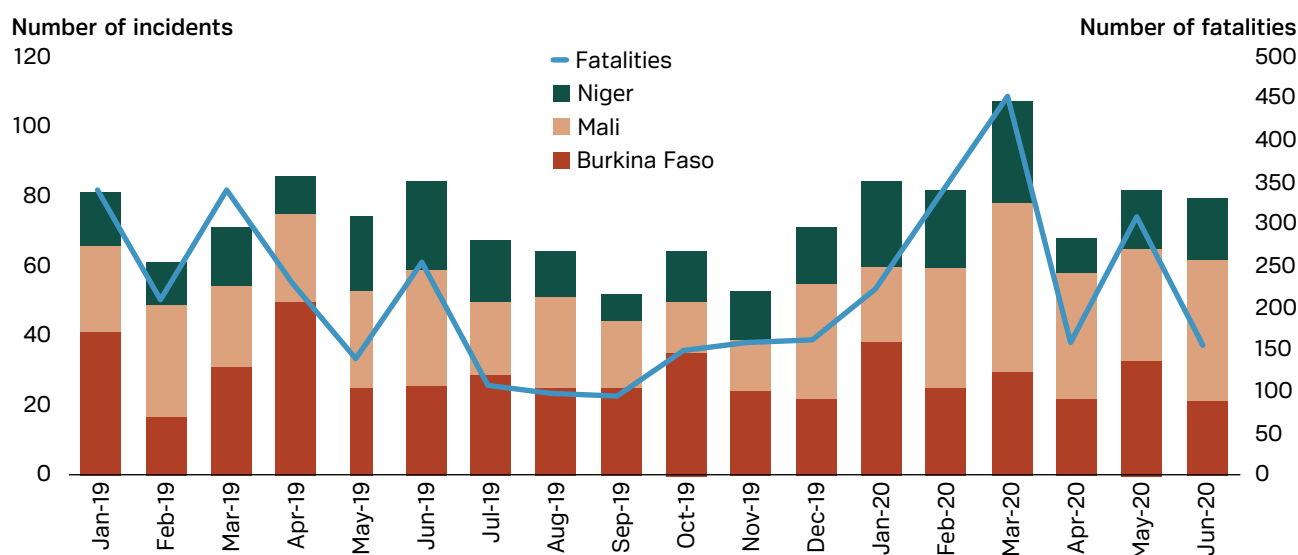
The Sahel region experienced a further sharp rise in the number of violent incidents and reported fatalities in the first half of 2020. The increase in insecurity—particularly in the central Sahel (Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger), as shown in figure 1.5—has led to a significant increase in displaced populations; by September 2020, there were a total of 3.5 million internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees, and returnees in the region (UNHCR 2020). The Sahel is facing one of the fastest-growing displacement crises in the world (FAO, UNICEF, and WFP 2020). Burkina Faso alone has experienced a sixfold increase in the number of IDPs in the country

Figure 1.4 Impact of climate shocks by consumption quintile across Sahel countries



Source: Brunelin, Ouedraogo, and Tandon forthcoming.

Figure 1.5 Violence against civilians by state forces in Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger, January 2019–June 2020



Source: Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED), <https://acleddata.com/data-export-tool/>.

since January 2019, growing from 90,000 to over 1 million in September 2020.³ Increased violence increases dispossession and loss of capital and livelihoods both for households that remain and those that flee. The combination of increased conflict and forced displacement raises levels of food insecurity and places further stress on access to limited resources and basic social services.

The onset of the COVID-19 global pandemic in 2020 has presented a new set of challenges for the countries in the Sahel, further exacerbating their already precarious situation. The first case of COVID-19 was recorded in Burkina Faso on March 9. Since then, cases have been recorded in all six countries and, as of July 8, totaled 5,318. While the numbers are growing, they do not yet compare to those experienced in middle- and high-income countries. It is not known whether the Sahel has yet to experience the full health impact of the virus or whether it has truly been less affected.

COVID-19 has triggered a sudden economic slowdown, with adverse impacts on poor and vulnerable households. The shock affected urban populations first, impeding mobility and close contact, hitting fast and at scale. Ongoing high-frequency monitoring documents how the shock has been felt across the population as social distancing measures have curtailed economic activity, supply chain disruptions have interfered with markets, and remittances from abroad have dried up.⁴ These economic impacts are likely to increase the number of food-insecure people to 13 million in the six Sahelian countries in a best-case scenario, according to the World Food Programme (WFP) as they intersect with the traditional lean season in the region (WFP 2020).

³ R4Sahel Coordination Platform for Forced Displacements in the Sahel, https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/sahelcrisis#_ga=2.220433368.1365389227.1602605724-502801625.1597748670; accessed October 2020.

⁴ The World Bank has been supporting high-frequency surveys across the Sahel to document the impacts of the COVID-19 shock on households. Results are available for [Burkina Faso](#) (World Bank Group 2020) and [Mali](https://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/catalog/3725/study-description) (<https://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/catalog/3725/study-description>).

2

The Sahel Adaptive Social Protection Program

BACKGROUND

The Sahel Adaptive Social Protection Program (SASPP) was launched in 2014 to support the design and implementation of adaptive social protection (ASP) programs and systems in six Sahel countries—Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, and Senegal—with a specific focus on climate change. The SASPP is supported by donor contributions from the

United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). In July 2020, the Danish government also joined the SASPP Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) with a contribution directed at a COVID-19 response. During its first phase (2014–19), the SASPP supported the design and introduction of foundational ASP systems. As of 2019, nearly 2 million people across the Sahel have benefited directly from innovations and programs with SASPP support. This report covers the World Bank's fiscal year 2020 (FY20), from July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020.

Adaptive social protection helps vulnerable households manage the risks from covariate shocks. The adaptive approach integrates basic social protection with disaster risk management and adaptation to climate change. To do so, it incorporates two interrelated and mutually reinforcing approaches: (1) building the resilience of households that are most vulnerable to shocks before they occur so they are better able to weather impacts when those shocks materialize in the future; and (2) preparing social protection systems and programs to become more responsive to shocks so they are better able to protect household well-being after a shock occurs.

Since 2014, the SASPP has been instrumental in enabling access for poor and vulnerable people in the Sahel to social safety nets in general and adaptive and shock-responsive social protection in particular. Governments in all six Sahel countries have put in place national safety net systems that are providing support to poor and vulnerable households. The first phase of the SASPP was focused on supporting the establishment of social safety net systems with adaptive features and building ownership around these programs. As part of that, the program laid operational foundations to pilot shock-response features, expand

the dialogue on early warning systems, and create greater buy-in for ASP with government and partners. The SASPP has started generating a robust evidence base to inform the design of national safety net programs with ASP elements; in addition, it has made significant efforts to promote learning and knowledge sharing across the region.

TOWARD PHASE 2

The program is entering its second phase (2020–25) with the objective of strengthening emerging ASP systems to enhance household resilience and expand the reach of shock response cash transfer programs.

The program aims to achieve this through a mix of (cross-) country knowledge work, investments in design, and piloting innovations across the six countries, as well as policy dialogue and close coordination with other development and humanitarian partners in each country. In practical terms, the SASPP is providing (1) **direct financial support** to government-led programs through investments in ASP systems, embedded in projects financed by the International Development Association (IDA) in each country; (2) **technical assistance**, knowledge activities and capacity building at the country level to strengthen systems across all building blocks of ASP systems; and (3) **regional knowledge activities** to complement country-focused activities and leverage the multicountry engagement for mutual learning and exchange of experience. Table 2.1 summarizes cumulative SASPP financial support to government-led programs and leveraged IDA resources.

Phase 2 of the SASPP is underpinned by a conceptual and strategic framework organized around five building blocks of ASP, which will guide efforts to further strengthen and develop ASP systems across the Sahel.

In 2019, the World Bank and the SASPP donor partners worked together to develop a new conceptual and strategic framework for ASP to guide SASPP activities under phase 2; this is aligned with the Bank's global framework for ASP (World Bank 2019).

Five building blocks for ASP were identified; their features differ from those for regular social protection programs:

- **Government leadership.** Government leadership and ownership of the ASP agenda is a prerequisite to the development of ASP. This includes, for instance, the identification of ASP in sectoral strategies, policies, and plans; financial commitments to ASP; and the development of mechanisms to hold government accountable for policy and financial commitments.
- **Institutional arrangements.** ASP requires a high degree of coordination among the multiple agencies involved, as well as capacity at all levels of government.

ASP may require the formation of new institutions or institutional reform in order to oversee, coordinate, and/or deliver ASP. Partnerships with nongovernment actors are critical in most cases for building household resilience and responding to shocks.

- **Data and information.** New information and analyses are required to better understand risk and vulnerability as a basis for program design and implementation. This includes the development of an evidence base on the effectiveness of ASP-related interventions to continue to guide future implementation.
- **Programs and their delivery systems.** Based on an understanding of risk and vulnerability, safety net programs must be designed and prepared to be able to meet household needs, building household resilience before a shock and protecting well-being after a shock.
- **Finance.** Resilience building requires long-term, sustainable financing commitments to support such initiatives. For response, finance must be disbursed quickly through responsive programs to be delivered in a timely manner to beneficiaries; this can be achieved through preplanning and prepositioning of the resources that are linked to responsive programs.

Table 2.1 SASPP- and IDA-funded projects in the Sahel

| Country | Project | Resource allocation (million \$) | | | | Status |
|--------------|---|----------------------------------|-------|------------|--------|--|
| | | IDA | SASPP | Government | Total | |
| Burkina Faso | Social Safety Net Project | 150.00 | 16.00 | 0 | 166.00 | AF in FY21 Q3 |
| Chad | Pilot Safety Net Project | 5.00 | 5.00 | 0 | 10.00 | Closed |
| Chad | Refugees and Host Communities Project (PARCA) | 135.00 | 6.00 | 0 | 141.00 | Includes new AF and SASPP contribution for COVID-19 response |
| Mali | Emergency Safety Nets Project (Jigiséméjiri) | 122.00 | 13.45 | 1.00 | 136.45 | AF pending as a result of current political situation; new operation also in preparation |
| Mauritania | Mauritania Social Safety Net System | 15.00 | 6.30 | 10.00 | 31.30 | Closed |
| Mauritania | Social Safety Net System Project II | 45.00 | 7.00 | 20.00 | 72.00 | AF in FY21 Q3 |
| Niger | Adaptive Safety Net Project | 92.50 | 8.50 | 0 | 101.00 | Closed |
| Niger | Niger Adaptive Safety Net Project 2 | 80.00 | 0 | 0 | 80.00 | AF in FY21 Q2 |
| Senegal | Senegal Safety Net Operation | 40.50 | 11.05 | | 51.55 | AF in FY21 Q3 |

Note: Table does not include additional financings (AFs) that are being prepared with significant SASPP MDTF financing.

In FY20, the SASPP completed its remaining phase 1 activities and transitioned to phase 2 with the initiation of new activities at the country and regional levels in line with its strategic refocusing. Country teams developed concept notes to outline the use of the SASPP MDTF funds for both investments and analytical and technical assistance activities. These activities were detailed by ASP building block to provide greater strategic coherence and highlight how they contribute to the overall objectives for building climate adaptive systems.

With the onset of the COVID-19 shock in early 2020, World Bank teams focused significant technical assistance efforts to support the articulation and planning of countries' responses through their ASP systems. The pandemic shifted immediate priorities toward emergency activities and operations across most client countries of the World Bank Group. In line with sudden needs, World Bank Group ASP teams mobilized technical assistance and advice to support authorities' efforts to mobilize the COVID-19 shock response through ASP systems—including by developing rapid targeting approaches and expansion of registries to urban areas. With technical assistance support from the SASPP, Burkina Faso, Mauritania, and Niger launched major COVID-19 response programs over the summer of 2020, which were in part financed by IDA projects. The ASP teams' approach to the COVID-19 response follows the World Bank Group's COVID-19 crisis response framework (see [appendix A](#)), which adopts three stages of response: relief, restructuring, and resilient recovery.

3 **SASPP regional program**

Under phase 2, the SASPP will reinforce cross-country knowledge work, mutual learning, and exchange of experience between ASP policy makers in the Sahel. To this end, the regional knowledge program is structured into an umbrella activity focused on the monitoring and assessment of ASP systems and four thematic areas: (1) poverty, vulnerability, and resilience, (2) climate shock-responsive delivery systems; (3) productive inclusion and women's empowerment; and (4) fragility and forced displacement. Phase 2 work under the four thematic areas will build on analytical work initiated under phase 1, especially on targeting and a large multicountry impact evaluation of productive inclusion programs. This section summarizes key FY20 activities and presents a forward look on ongoing and planned activities for FY21.

MONITORING OF ASP SYSTEMS

Consistent with the SASPP's objective of strengthening ASP systems, the program will support monitoring efforts to benchmark countries' ASP systems across the building blocks and to track progress over time. To this end, a World Bank team is developing an ASP Stress Test, together with the Centre for Disaster Protection, which will be a global tool but fully reflective of the circumstances in the Sahel. The stress test tool rates countries along a set of criteria grouped into five clusters (along the building blocks): government leadership, institutional arrangements, data and information, programs and delivery systems, and finance. The criteria are focused on the key factors and actions needed to ensure steady development of ASP systems. An early draft of the ASP Stress Test tool was discussed during a brainstorming workshop with SASPP MDTF donors in January 2020.

The ASP Stress Test tool will reflect common shocks faced by a country and the ability of the ASP system to respond. The first part simulates the likely impact of various types of shocks on households and determines both the additional or new poor and the increase in the depth of poverty. The second part

of the tool is akin to an assessment of the system across the five building blocks of ASP relative to the scale-up need simulated in the first part. Countries will be scored along a spectrum from latent to advanced for each building block, as well as given an overall average score. The ASP Stress Test tool will be finalized in FY21, and a baseline for each of the six Sahel countries will be developed. This baseline will provide an overview of the ASP system as well as a means to monitor progress over the next five years. The baseline will also include the results from a joint sector review of ASP with government and partners, which will assess the different building blocks and subcategories and provide a basis for discussion of broader implications, strategic priorities, and overall ambition.

In parallel to the tool to monitor the strengthening of ASP systems, the SASPP team also drafted a new results framework for the SASPP under phase 2 to better capture the outcomes of MDTF investments. The new results framework represents a collaborative process and will capture direct investments made by the MDTF on climate shock-responsive systems and the MDTF-supported COVID-19 response. In some instances, it will have a baseline from the achieved target of the first phase; in others, representing new indicators, it will have a baseline of zero.

POVERTY, VULNERABILITY, AND RESILIENCE

The objective of this thematic area is to deepen the understanding of the nature of climate-related shocks and household coping strategies and to provide an empirical evidence and knowledge platform to serve SASPP activities at the regional and country levels. The particular emphasis of this thematic area is to better illustrate the types of shocks that are most important for social protection systems to be responsive to in the region. The thematic area is organized around three components: (1) types of shocks and their impact on poverty, (2) timing of household and community responses to shocks, and (3) mechanisms by which shocks affect households. As a first order, work began on more thoroughly addressing the manner in which households responded to shocks. Initial steps were also taken to set up high-frequency monitoring to track the food-security and employment impacts of COVID-19 and other shocks to which the region is susceptible.

The team completed a policy brief that identifies the most prevalent shocks in the region and the degree to which these shocks differ in their incidence and impact on welfare distribution. The primary findings demonstrate that making ASP systems that are responsive to climate shocks—

droughts in particular—would reach the largest share of the population and would also be more pro-poor than systems that are responsive to other shocks. Drought affects a higher share of households than the other main shocks in the region, and disproportionately affects poor households. Alternatively, other main shocks in the region—including idiosyncratic shocks (e.g., sickness of a household member) and conflict shocks—tend to affect poor and rich households equally (Brunelin, Ouedraogo, and Tandon forthcoming) (box 3.1).

Further outputs under the thematic area in FY21 will focus on how households cope with expected shocks, such as seasonality, and unexpected shocks, such as droughts and floods. A draft will be ready by the end of the 2020 calendar year examining all the ways in which a household adapts to seasonality by comparing household- and individual-level outcomes as captured in a broad multipurpose survey conducted during the lean season and at other points in the year. This will be complemented by a paper focused on Niger and the impacts of shocks on livelihoods. Using panel data, the research team will undertake an analysis of shocks on livelihoods and marketing strategies, assess household-level crop production and income, and document households' marketing behaviors and how they are shaped by climate shocks.

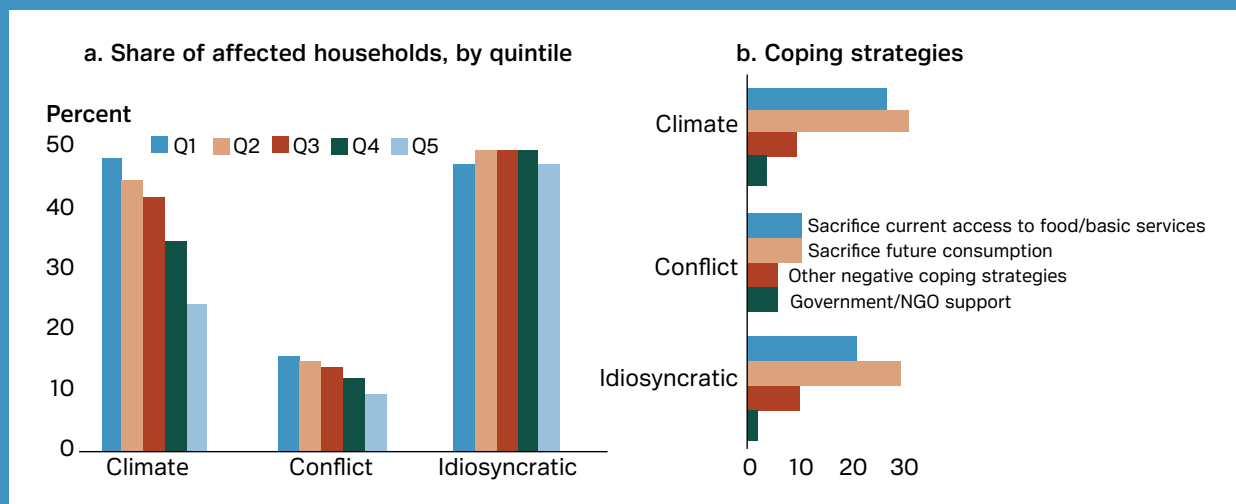
In FY20, the team began preparatory work on high-frequency surveys in the region to identify the impacts of COVID-19, among other items. The high-frequency survey will also be used to track high-frequency changes in food security and employment around other more typical shocks to which the region is susceptible. One round of a high-frequency survey has been conducted in Chad, and the team is in the process of initiating a similar survey in Niger. The Chad data will be analyzed and will serve as a baseline for subsequent rounds.

Under phase 1, the SASPP supported a cross-country program of analytical work on targeting, which resulted in the finalization of several papers in FY20. The first of these is a draft paper on targeting in ultra-poor contexts; this compiled data from across the Sahel countries to provide a comprehensive comparative assessment of the main targeting methods used in the region. The team also published two articles in academic journals providing cutting-edge evidence on ways to identify beneficiaries of safety net programs based on data from Niger (Premand and Schnitzer 2019; Schnitzer 2019). One of the papers examines the performance of proxy means testing, community-based targeting, and food consumption scores in Niger. Results show that proxy means testing is relatively more efficient at including the poorest and excluding the better-off based on consumption per capita. Also, households assigned to formula-based methods (proxy means testing and food consumption scores) were as much as 7.8 percentage points more likely to prefer repeating the method compared

Box 3.1 Five facts about shocks in the Sahel

A new set of household surveys harmonized across most of the Sahel countries was conducted in 2018–19 and can help identify distributional impacts of shocks in much greater detail for the region than before. The West African Economic and Monetary Union’s harmonized household survey included Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Niger, and Senegal—but not Mauritania. Importantly, the degree to which different shocks have different impacts at different points of the welfare distribution can help identify the types of shocks to which social protection schemes need to be most responsive. Based on the 2018–19 household surveys in the region, there are a number of key findings that can help inform the development of ASP systems in the region; these are summarized below and in the figure:

- **FACT 1:** The majority of the population in the Sahel is exposed to repeated idiosyncratic and covariate shocks, including climate- and conflict-related shocks.
- **FACT 2:** Although less prevalent in the Sahel than other shocks on aggregate, conflict shocks tend to be more regionally concentrated and affect a high share of the population in affected regions.
- **FACT 3:** In response to idiosyncratic and covariate shocks, households are forced to resort to a variety of negative coping strategies that make it difficult to escape a cycle of poverty and vulnerability. This is particularly the case for the poorest households.
- **FACT 4:** Climate and weather shocks are much more concentrated among the poorest households than other shocks to which the region is susceptible; this underscores the importance of drought-responsive ASP systems to protect the poorest households from the impacts of climate shocks.
- **FACT 5:** The population in Senegal is less likely to be exposed to all types of shocks and is also less likely to rely on negative coping strategies than the rest of the region. But like its neighbors, Senegal is significantly affected by droughts, and those droughts are more likely to affect poorer households.



Source: Brunelin, Ouedraogo, and Tandon forthcoming.

to households assigned to community-based targeting (half the respondents expect committee members would benefit through self-dealing). In contrast, in high-inequality villages, there was no difference in the perceived legitimacy of the different targeting methods.

CLIMATE SHOCK-RESPONSIVE DELIVERY SYSTEMS

The objective of this thematic area is to inform the design and support the delivery of shock-responsive social protection in the six countries. Activities focus on a blend of knowledge products, learning exchanges, and the provision of just-in-time technical assistance to task teams for design and implementation of shock-responsive safety net activities at the country level, in coordination with the individual country workplans for phase 2 of the SASPP. Activities are grouped into four components identified by country teams as critical pillars for advancing shock-responsive social protection in each country that stand to benefit significantly from a regional approach to knowledge, learning, and technical assistance: (1) designing shock-responsive social protection interventions, (2) operational “nuts and bolts” of shock-responsive social protection, (3) disaster risk financing and insurance strategy for shock-responsive social protection, and (4) creating evidence of impact of shock-responsive social protection.

A two-day internal workshop was held in January 2020 in Senegal on climate early warning systems for the SASPP team and donors. The purpose of the workshop was to allow for an exchange of ideas and learning between the different SASPP country teams. The workshop also included UK and BMZ/Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ) representatives as well as World Bank colleagues from related Global Practices such as Disaster Risk Management and Risk Financing and partners such as the Red Cross Climate Center and the WFP. The two-day workshop covered country examples of shock-response cash transfers, early warning system innovations, climate data, and disaster risk financing. It allowed teams the opportunity to reorient their workplans and identify key gaps. It also allowed the thematic area team to more clearly define a three-year work program for this agenda.

To better inform discussions around climate early warning systems, a review of the Cadre Harmonisé in the Sahel countries was undertaken. The resulting summary paper presents (1) a global analysis of the Cadre Harmonisé, (2) an overview of shock-responsive social protection under the SASPP, and (3) a short description of interactions between the framework and shock-responsive social protection (Sandrine 2020). Initial discussions around the preparation of

various guidance notes to identify and strengthen triggers for response for different types of shocks—including droughts, floods, and health-related shocks—were also conducted. In FY21, this work will be taken forward in collaboration with colleagues in agriculture, disaster risk management, and disaster risk financing.

One of the core areas of work under this thematic area is related to disaster risk financing for shock-responsive social protection. This entails closer alignment of work between World Bank Global Practices (Social Protection, Disaster Risk Management, and Disaster Risk Financing). Two draft guidance notes on disaster risk financing for shock-responsive social protection were prepared. Following finalization of these notes, teams are planning a series of workshops—both with country teams and with counterparts in Sahel countries—to ensure better awareness of the importance of disaster risk financing in timely response to shocks, to present various financing modalities that could be considered, and to discuss key steps toward the development of a disaster risk financing framework for shock response in Sahel countries. In Niger and Senegal, a country-level dialogue around disaster risk financing in shock-responsive social protection has been supported through diagnostics and data analysis.

In FY21, a series of policy notes will be prepared, each touching on critical points along the ASP delivery chain. The notes will outline key elements to be taken into consideration in developing various delivery mechanisms; assessing existing mechanisms across the Sahel countries; and providing key recommendations and a roadmap to guide future expansion related to design, delivery systems, and implementation arrangements. The work has already begun on two initial notes—an overview of social registries in Sahel countries, and payment systems. The first note, presenting key design features of social registries in the Sahel, is in an advanced draft; work on the payment systems note is advancing. Both notes are expected to be completed by the end of the fiscal year. Following their finalization, workshops will be organized for the country teams and key counterparts to present major findings from the notes and facilitate discussion of next steps in developing a delivery system.

The team launched a work program around creating evidence for shock-responsive social protection. A stocktaking exercise of the design of shock-responsive transfers and existing evaluations was initiated, and discussions held around the articulation of priority questions on the effectiveness of optimal design of shock-responsive transfers that evaluations could address. In FY21, an impact evaluation strategy note will be prepared. It will outline plans for a regional approach to SASPP impact evaluations, clarifying where it would be feasible to undertake an impact evaluation and delineating details for each country, including

proposed methods and approaches along with indicators to be measured and regional aspects to be addressed.

PRODUCTIVE INCLUSION AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

The objective of this thematic area is to inform the design and implementation of new waves of economic inclusion interventions in the Sahel focused on building household and community resilience to the impacts of climate change, with an eye on women's empowerment.

Productive inclusion interventions can complement safety nets in supporting poor households' livelihoods and strengthening their resilience. Besides supporting household consumption and food security and facilitating investment in human capital, ASP programs also aim at facilitating investment in income-generating activities carried out by social safety net beneficiary households. The programs are not only aimed at increasing productivity and incomes, but also at supporting income smoothing and diversification and at helping households cope with risks and climatic shocks. These interventions can be effective tools for women's empowerment, especially when women are the recipient of the cash transfer on the household's behalf and are the primary beneficiary of productive inclusion activities—which they are, in many cases in the Sahel.

The thematic area supports country-level programs to design, implement, and evaluate productive accompanying measures. The regional activity supports technical assistance to country teams, including both World Bank teams working on country programs and government teams in charge of implementing these programs. To this end, partnerships with technical assistance providers have been put in place, including with Trickle Up, an international nongovernmental organization (NGO), and Centre de Suivi, d'Assistance et de Management (CESAM), a West African training firm. The regional activity also coordinates the work of a research team working on a multicountry impact evaluation in collaboration with Innovation for Poverty Action and the Africa Gender Innovation Lab.

In FY20, implementation of the productive measures targeting more than 50,000 households in Burkina Faso, Mauritania, Niger, and Senegal was finalized.¹ Women make up more than 90 percent of all productive inclusion measure beneficiaries. Implementation was highlighted by the delivery of cash grants to beneficiaries, which took place in January 2019 in Niger, September 2019

¹ Productive inclusion measures were also implemented in Chad and Mali through slightly different approaches.



in Mauritania, December 2019 in Senegal, and June 2020 in Burkina Faso. Some support from coaches and savings groups continued after the delivery of the cash grant in some countries (in particular in Niger and Senegal).

The regional activity provided technical support to implementation and consolidated operational learning and lessons on productive inclusion measures. This included the provision of technical assistance and monitoring visits from technical assistance providers, and support in the use of strengthened monitoring and evaluation (M&E) modules to track implementation. These efforts were critical in understanding the quality of implementation of productive measures. In FY20, M&E data were consolidated across the Sahelian countries. Additionally, process evaluations were completed in Niger (FY19) and Senegal (FY20) and are nearing completion in Mauritania; evaluation in Burkina Faso is planned for FY21.

As part of the consolidation of M&E data, the regional team consolidated cost data across four Sahelian countries. The average cost of productive measures per beneficiary across the four countries—Burkina Faso, Mauritania, Niger, and Senegal—is \$310, including management and supervision. These costs are much lower than for typical economic inclusion and graduation programs in other contexts. Analysis of the cost data shows that the delivery of productive measures through national systems and large-scale programs contributed to keeping costs low.

Operational lessons to date show that quality delivery of productive measures is possible through national, government-led safety net programs. This is exemplified through high participation rates among beneficiaries—e.g., a 93 percent attendance rate for three or four savings group meetings per month, a 90–98 percent attendance at group coaching meetings, and 91–95 percent attendance at trainings. More variation in quality was found in individual coaching visits, in part because of the need to tailor these to local contexts and beneficiary needs.

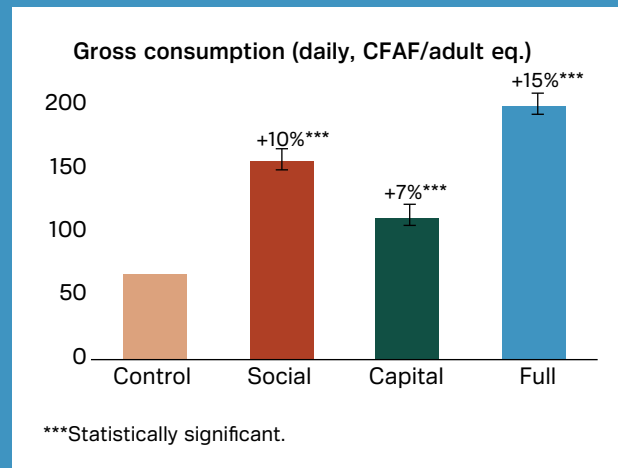
The main objective of SASPP multicountry impact evaluation is to assess the effectiveness of accompanying measures in promoting productive inclusion and resilience among the poor in the Sahel. Baseline surveys were completed in all countries in 2017 and 2018. A first follow-up survey took place in Niger in 2019, with a second follow-up completed there in March 2020—with a satisfactory response rate of over 90 percent (box 3.2). Follow-up surveys were planned in Mauritania and Senegal between March and June 2020, but these were postponed because of the COVID-19 outbreak. Instead, a short phone survey was organized in Senegal in June 2020; a similar effort is being planned in Mauritania. The phone survey does not cover the full set of outcomes as contained in the multicountry study, but it will provide information about the role of productive measures in supporting household resiliency in the face of the COVID-19 crisis. The team hopes to field full-fledged in-person follow-up surveys in Burkina Faso, Mauritania, and Senegal in FY21, if the COVID-19 situation permits this.²

In FY21, the productive inclusion team will work on three parallel tracks comprising finalization of impact evaluation–related outputs, summarizing operational learnings, and broader engagement and communication. As with many other activities, these will require flexibility and may change depending on the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic and ensuing restrictions or easing of lockdown measures.

²Follow-up data would also be collected in Chad in FY21 as part of the spin-off study.

Box 3.2 Results from Niger second-round follow-up

Results from Niger show that the productive measures undertaken led to a large increase in consumption and food security. Significant impacts were observed six months after the intervention, and were sustained 18 months post-intervention for three productive inclusion packages. The evaluation tested three packages with common features involving coaching, savings facilitation, and micro-entrepreneurship training as well as variations involving (1) skills and community sensitization (“social”), (2) a capital grant (“capital”), and a full package of all elements. Impacts on consumption per household per year were estimated at between \$131 and \$386 at the first follow-up, and between \$290 and \$427 at the second follow-up. The productive measures were highly cost-effective: their cumulative welfare impacts exceed their costs 18 months after the intervention. The measures helped households boost investments and diversify off-farm income-generating activities. Large impacts on participation and earnings in off-farm businesses were found for all productive packages in both follow-up surveys. Profits in off-farm businesses increased by \$11–\$21 per household per month at the first follow-up, and by \$8–\$15 per household per month at the second follow-up. The program also led to meaningful changes in psychological well-being and beneficiaries’ sense of social worth. Beneficiaries experienced stronger social and financial support, and expressed higher trust and a greater capacity for collective action. In terms of women’s empowerment, women reported greater aspirations and decision-making power over their own resources. The program improved gender attitudes and perceptions of women engaging in economic activities.



The SASPP will fund the follow-up surveys and analysis and presentation of the productive inclusion impact evaluation in FY21.

The follow-up surveys in Burkina Faso, Mauritania, and Senegal were delayed as a result of the pandemic. While a phone follow-up survey was finally undertaken in Senegal, this was not the case for the remaining two countries. The expectation is to be able to undertake these in FY21. In addition, the team will develop a preliminary presentation with the results of the Senegal follow-up phone survey and finalize a report with the Niger results.

In addition to the ongoing survey work and data analysis, the research team will focus on extracting and presenting operational learnings.

The productive inclusion team has a strong collaboration with the Partnership for Economic Inclusion (PEI). As part of this collaboration, the research team will

develop a case study for joint publication. In addition, it will publish a series of notes on operational learning (such as M&E, process evaluations, etc.).

An important component of the productive inclusion thematic area is disseminating results and learnings and providing technical assistance.

Communication and dissemination of the productive inclusion impact evaluation results is a key activity under the SASPP. As a first measure, the team will focus on updating the program website with videos and blog posts. Another key activity is to put together brown bag lunches or seminars on the results of the impact evaluation, both internally with country management units and externally. Depending on the trajectory of the pandemic, the research team intends to conduct a common workshop with the different countries in the study to further the agenda. Finally, the team will provide technical assistance to countries, including Chad, on implementation and analysis of the impact evaluation.

FRAGILITY AND FORCED DISPLACEMENT

The objective of this thematic area is to support World Bank Group social protection operations, including under the SASPP, in navigating the changing context of increasing fragility and forced displacement in the Sahel. This involves work on three parallel streams: (1) understanding if and how ASP programs can address the drivers of fragility and displacement; (2) ensuring the delivery of ASP programs in fragile environments and improving outcomes for program beneficiaries in these settings, particularly refugees; and (3) strengthening the integration between humanitarian support and ASP programs across the Sahel region. The activities will draw on operational insights from the Sahel program and elsewhere and promote the sharing of practical operational solutions among countries, partners, and World Bank teams.

To better orient and focus the research, the fragility and forced displacement thematic area undertook exploratory work through desk reviews and focus group discussions to help identify research areas and specific knowledge products that address critical gaps in analysis and programming. Understanding the contextual risks and operational challenges in fragility, conflict, and violence (FCV) environments marked by forced displacement and high security constraints is key to designing ASP systems that are effective, responsive, and inclusive for all vulnerable households.

Significant progress was made during FY20 on the first stream of work on the root causes of forced displacement. Draft literature reviews of existing quantitative and qualitative studies on the root causes of forced displacement in the Sahel were undertaken. These reviews served as a basis for developing a

qualitative report summarizing the dominant narratives on the drivers of fragility and forced displacement, as well as how these could potentially affect or be affected by the delivery of core social protection and jobs programs and toward establishing a theory of change. This theory of change is additionally informed by a short survey and focus group undertaken with experts in the field of fragility and forced displacement within and outside of the World Bank Group. A short and structured questionnaire was commissioned as a first step toward building a cross-country data set covering the impact of social protection and jobs operations which should be completed in FY23. This questionnaire is being incorporated into social protection and other sectoral surveys to better understand country experiences of violence on the ground; the objective is for it to be incorporated into ongoing surveys undertaken by the Social Protection Global Practice and other colleagues in the region. This questionnaire has already been integrated in the monthly rapid phone surveys in Mauritania, while similar modules developed by the FCV team have been integrated in surveys in Burkina Faso and Mali.

The team will analyze the data and results from the fragility module included in the high-frequency surveys and other impact evaluations. In FY21, the team will continue to integrate the fragility module into ongoing social protection-related and other surveys. The intent is to understand how households' decision on moving or fleeing is affected by ongoing insecurity and/or other developments around them as well as social protection programs.

In line with the second objective of the thematic area, focus group discussions were undertaken to identify potential solutions and innovations for operations targeting refugees and IDPs. The second strand of research focuses on how to design ASP operations that realize the best possible outcomes in settings of fragility and forced displacement. As a first step and to benefit from a wide range of experiences, focus groups were held. Participants included World Bank teams, as well as external humanitarian partners from the United Nations system and other agencies. Focus group discussions with World Bank colleagues and humanitarian partners working on social protection in fragile and/or forced displacement contexts was followed by a rapid online survey to identify thematic areas of work, as well as contextual and institutional impediments. This exploratory work allowed for a better definition of the outputs and operational research required to advance knowledge and the effectiveness of social protection operations. The need for operational resources providing guidelines and presenting a repertoire of amassed technical experience for operating in FCV situations was evident. To date, four context case studies reviewing fragility and security situations have been developed, allowing for a synthesis on insecurity levels in the region and beyond. These also fed into a draft note on "Adapting Social Safety Net Operations to Insecurity in the Sahel," which looks at different operational adaptations to

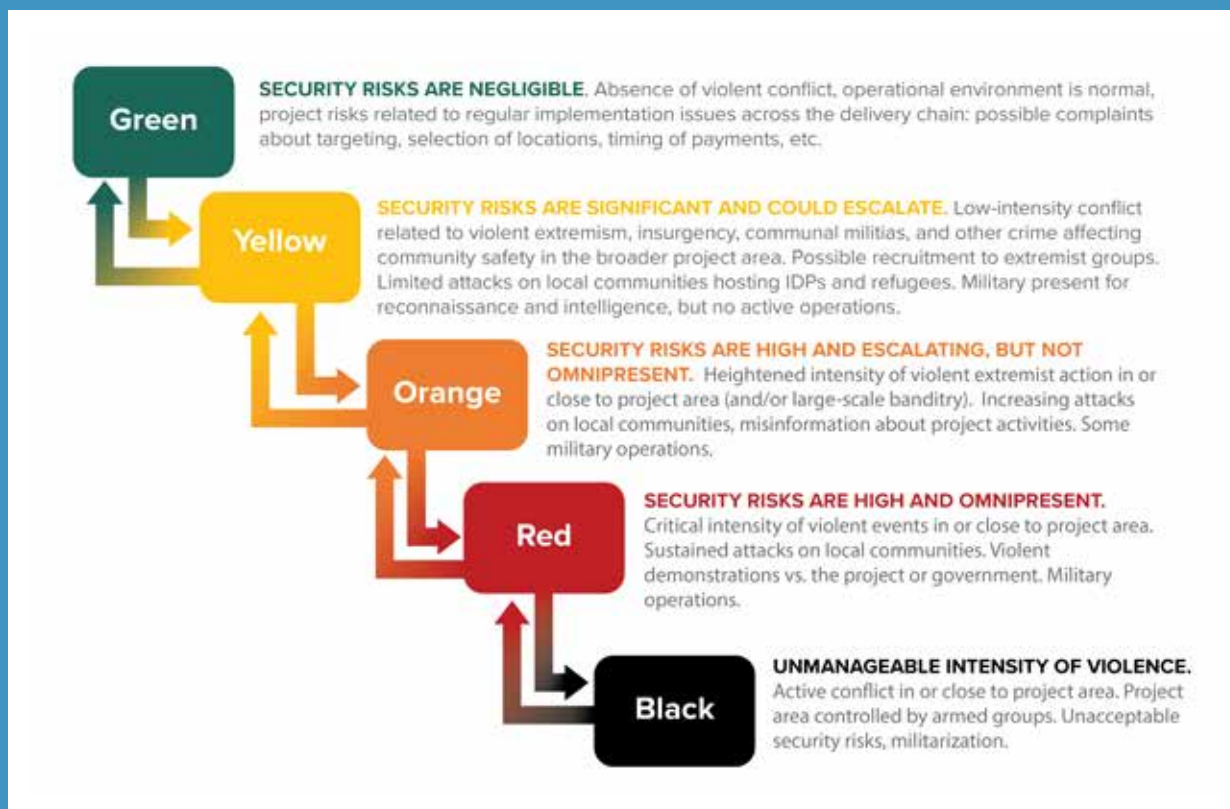
insecurity (box 3.3). This is the first step toward developing a report outlining a repertoire of options for adapting operations to fragility and forced displacement.

Progress on this stream of work will continue in FY21 through the development of “how-to” operational notes based on country case studies.

Besides finalizing the note on adaptation to insecurity, the team will undertake an operational “deep dive” into different parts of the delivery chain through a series of country case studies. Each case study will examine a different programmatic

Box 3.3 Cascading levels of insecurity

To expand knowledge about security in the Sahel, country notes have been developed that outline the security dimension surrounding a forced displacement context as well as analyzing the types and severity of security threats. This information was consolidated into a matrix (see below) outlining different levels of insecurity and their likely impact on World Bank Group operations. Using this scale for cascading levels of insecurity, the SASPP fragility team developed a note—“Adapting Social Safety Net Operations to Insecurity in the Sahel”—that provides a framework, key principles, and repertoire of options for adapting social safety net projects to unprecedented levels of insecurity and thereby better ensure effective project implementation. This note will be launched as part of a new SASPP Operational and Policy Note series in FY21.



activity in depth and assess the necessary adaptations from design to supervision to partnerships. Case studies will include refugee operations. The purpose of the case studies is to extract lessons and share experiences on adaptation across the delivery chain and operational processes to guide teams working in FCV countries in general and on forced displacement in particular.

The country notes on the security context will be expanded and converted to a more user-friendly and accessible format. Country notes on the fragility of countries will be finalized. The notes are intended to serve as a guide to World Bank teams as they engage in and prepare operations, particularly to have a more in-depth understanding of the fragility and insecurity dynamic. For interactivity, and to ensure they are continuously updated, the notes will be transformed into a digital tool to enable greater access by specialists.

A third work stream will kick off in FY21, as the team undertakes a deeper exploration on policy and operational opportunities and challenges to the alignment of humanitarian social assistance with national ASP systems. The team is working with an international research firm to develop the research proposal. The study will seek to better understand the various approaches to social protection that can be deployed in crisis contexts in the Sahel and identify the most effective connecting points for alignment between humanitarian social assistance and national safety net systems. The study will build on the conceptual framework of operating along the humanitarian-development nexus and will be based on six country case studies.

4

SASPP country programs

This chapter summarizes SASPP country-level activities during FY20 and workplans for FY21. The activities over FY20 represent (1) the closing of the first phase of activities; (2) significant technical support to countries, particularly with the onset of COVID-19; and (3) programming of country activities for SASPP phase 2.

Phase 2 country-level activities—both investment financing (i.e., recipient-executed) and analysis and technical assistance (i.e., Bank-executed) activities—were developed and are being programmed around the ASP building blocks. During FY20, country teams engaged in a strategic exercise to identify objectives and priority activities for phase 2 along the five building blocks (government leadership, institutional arrangements, data and information, delivery systems, and finance), resulting in concept notes for analytical programs and investment support to countries alongside IDA. The objective is to ensure that SASPP activities contribute in some clear way to the progress and advancement of the building blocks. The FY21 workplan builds on new concept notes and identifies the steps and tasks that will be undertaken in FY21, while allowing for flexibility as a result of the ongoing pandemic and the limitations it imposes on travel and fieldwork.

Country investment plans for the SASPP are being reprioritized to accommodate additional MDTF support to countries' COVID-19 response through their ASP systems. Given the COVID-19 pandemic, the programming of some country investment activities has had to be reprioritized from their initial conception, with significant attention given to a COVID-19 response through the SASPP MDTF in FY21 (box 4.1).

Box 4.1 Directions for the ASP response to the COVID-19 shock in the Sahel

The countries in the Sahel have laid the foundations of ASP systems that provide critical tools to help them respond to shocks and that can be leveraged for the COVID-19 shock response, with some adjustments. With technical assistance support from World Bank teams in the six SASPP countries, governments have identified plans to “flex” nascent ASP systems for a swift response at scale to provide income support to the poor and newly poor, particularly in urban areas.

The response to the COVID-19 economic shock in the Sahel can be differentiated into two overlapping stages with differing needs. While the immediate emergency response stage (relief) following the sudden cessation of economic activity and loss of incomes focused on cash support to particular affected households, countries are transitioning to the second stage of the response in the face of a sustained period of economic contraction or low growth, which is likely to lead to hardship for a wider set of the population, including the structural and newly poor.

In FY20 and early FY21, the **emergency stage** COVID-19 shock response in the Sahel has focused on short-term emergency cash transfers with vertical (higher benefits for existing beneficiaries) and horizontal (extending coverage to new beneficiaries) expansions and changes to design, management, and delivery. In Burkina Faso, Chad, Mauritania, and Niger, COVID-19 emergency relief involves shock-response cash transfers to a wider group of beneficiaries. The delivery of these cash transfers has “piggybacked” on already existing systems (e.g., institutions, registries, payment systems), but has also been designed (and communicated) as separate from regular social safety nets—time-bound, with a clear exit strategy, and with more inclusive but clear targeting criteria. In countries with a (near) nationwide social registry like Mauritania, much of the COVID-19 response program has drawn on the social registry. Where such registries are small or nascent, extending program coverage to new beneficiaries in urban areas has required creating ad hoc adapted registries, integrating data from additional sources.

The **expanded relief and ASP system reinforcement stage** in FY21 and after will likely have a dual approach with (1) expanded coverage of cash transfers, with accompanying productive inclusion measures; and (2) investments in strengthening ASP systems to “build back better.” Initial plans focus on a sustained horizontal expansion of cash transfers to previously noncovered populations, including the newly poor in urban and peri-urban areas, either via the regular social safety net or via shock-response programs (including reinforcing those focused on food insecurity). Cash transfers would increasingly be complemented by productive inclusion activities aimed at supporting households’ return to, or diversification of, sustainable livelihoods (cash transfer + approach). The design of the recovery-oriented productive inclusion activities will build on fresh evidence from the SASPP-supported impact evaluation of productive inclusion programs in Niger and Senegal. In parallel to supporting households, this stage would also emphasize investments in reinforcing ASP delivery systems. This can include the expansion and update of social registries to account for urban populations, digital payment systems, and grievance redress mechanisms. These efforts would incorporate lessons from the first stage of the response. In turn, countries will leverage the COVID-19 crisis response in close coordination with humanitarian actors involved in the relief response at scale (especially the WFP and UNICEF) to build stronger climate ASP systems.

The World Bank will support Sahel governments in their COVID-19 response through ASP systems with existing and new IDA resources and financing from the SASPP MDTF. The IDA/MDTF financial support for the COVID-19 response follows a two-stage process with (1) reallocation and frontloading of available IDA financing from undisbursed balances of existing ASP operations in FY20, and (2) processing of additional IDA and SASPP MDTF financing to sustain and expand the COVID-19 response and reinforce the ASP system strengthening agenda (FY21 and after).

BURKINA FASO

Burkina Faso SASPP activities are anchored in the Social Safety Net Project which was approved in FY14.

The Burkina safety net operation initially benefited from a \$50 million IDA allocation and a \$6 million SASPP MDTF contribution. It was significantly expanded with additional financing of \$100 million from IDA to scale up and respond to refugee needs in FY19. The objective of the project is to establish the building blocks of an adaptive safety net system and increase access to safety nets to poor and vulnerable households, through regular and shock-responsive cash transfers, productive inclusion activities, and public works; in addition to putting in place system building blocks such as payment systems, targeting approaches, and a registry.

In FY 2020, the Social Safety Net Project continued implementation in its three original regions (North, East, and Central East) and began implementation in the country's volatile Sahel region.

Including regular and shock-responsive cash transfers, the project currently reaches 69,755 households, 101,605 designated recipients, and—through them—572,535 individuals in the North, East, Central East, Central West, and Sahel regions. Over the reporting period, the project started making transfers in the Sahel region, with the first payment made in March 2020 and the second in August 2020. Implementation in the North region ended in June 2020.

Key developments in FY20

Burkina Faso has been facing sharp rises in insecurity leading to significant forced displacement, mostly internal. Over a million people have been internally displaced in Burkina Faso by 2020, which represents an almost 100 percent increase since the beginning of the year. Burkina Faso also hosts 20,000 refugees from neighboring countries. This increase in violence and displacement is significantly



deteriorating access to basic services and exacerbating food insecurity with fears of potential famine looming.

While the country was on its way to reducing poverty, the COVID-19 pandemic significantly affected livelihoods. The first case of COVID-19 in Burkina Faso was reported on March 9, 2020. By July, 9 of the country's 13 regions reported COVID-19 cases. The government declared a lockdown, market closures, and a curfew. The pandemic tops a situation of worsening security in the country, with many regions becoming inaccessible. In fact, since February 2020, at least 800,000 people have been internally displaced. The Burkina Faso SASPP team moved quickly to respond to this crisis. In the context of COVID-19, the emergency response intervention through the ASP system foresaw a horizontal expansion to cover three target groups: (1) people already infected by COVID-19 throughout the national territory, (2) fruit and vegetable market vendors from Ouagadougou and Bobo-Dioulasso, and (3) vulnerable people in the communes of Ouagadougou and Bobo-Dioulasso.

The strategy of the emergency response intervention has been to make use of already existing data from the Ministry of Health (target group 1), associations of market vendors (target group 2), and the Ministry of Women, National Solidarity, Family and Humanitarian Action database of vulnerable people (target group 3). However, the data obtained from these sources were insufficient, and complementary data collection was conducted by phone between April and June 2020. Data collection and determination of eligibility were finalized in June 2020.

The Burkinabe authorities provided emergency support to households affected by the COVID-19 shock through their ASP system and with World Bank technical assistance and financial support. For the first target group, 135 beneficiaries out of 3,000 originally targeted were enrolled based on data from the Ministry of Health. Steps were taken to coordinate with medical centers to reach additional beneficiaries. This approach has enabled data to be obtained on an additional 1,128 people. The second target group covers 12,936 beneficiaries in Ouagadougou and 7,824 in Bobo-Dioulasso, for a total of 20,760 beneficiaries. Of the third target group, 7,507 beneficiaries in Ouagadougou and 6,589 in Bobo-Dioulasso were enrolled. In collaboration with leaders of religious communities, data were collected for an additional 10,393 people; consequently, 5,000 additional beneficiaries in Ouagadougou and 2,000 in Bobo-Dioulasso were enrolled. Despite challenges related to implementation of mobile payments, 19,422 beneficiaries have received emergency transfers. This includes 106 beneficiaries in group 1 and 5,685 in group 3 who have received one payment, and 13,631 in group 2 who have

received two payments. The COVID-19 shock response received financial support from the Social Safety Net Project.

The deteriorating security situation continues to negatively affect implementation, causing payment delays and impeding implementation of accompanying measures in the Sahel region. The COVID-19 pandemic imposed additional challenges, causing delays in implementation of ongoing activities. Despite these difficulties, the government was able to provide emergency cash transfers in response to the pandemic. A strategy aimed at expanding coverage to IDPs has been prepared. Targeting these households is currently being done, based on data collected by the National Council for Emergency Relief (Conseil National de Secours d'Urgence et de Réhabilitation—CONASUR).

Recipient-executed activities

FY20 saw the completion of activities funded under SASPP phase 1, namely the shock cash transfers and the productive inclusion activities.

The SASPP-funded adaptive shock-response transfer modality implemented in the Boulkiemdé Province was completed, with final payments made in December 2019. Through the SASPP, the shock-response cash transfers reached 5,434 households, 7,583 designated recipients, and—through them—34,353 individuals. As of August 2020, about 89 percent of designated recipients in the East and Central East regions benefited from awareness-raising and monitoring sessions in groups of 20–25 members on nutrition and early childhood development, and about 93 percent benefited from household visits. Measures on productive inclusion have been implemented in the North region. Of the initial target of 17,891 beneficiaries, 15,694 benefited from training on life skills and microentrepreneurial skills in October 2019.¹ Additionally, 4,999 were determined eligible to receive a cash grant to facilitate investment in income-generating activities; as of August 31, 2020, almost all—4,987 beneficiaries—had received their grants, and the project implementation unit is currently working with the payment agency to pay the remaining 12 beneficiaries. The end of activities in the North was marked by a workshop on June 30, 2020, at which the results of the interventions in the region were presented to the administrative and political authorities. Following this closure, an evaluation of the collaboration protocol with Trickle Up as part of implementation of the ASP program occurred on July 27, 2020.

¹Due to the security situation, 25 villages became inaccessible for the provision of intensive training. Beneficiaries in these villages were not able to participate in these trainings.

Bank-executed activities

In FY 2020, the SASPP supported technical assistance on targeting, financial planning, the information system, and the social registry.

Technical assistance on targeting has focused on adapting the project's targeting methodology to IDPs as well as for COVID-19 emergency transfers. Regarding financial planning, the World Bank supported the project implementation unit in development of an in-depth financial planning tool adapted to the needs of the project; this is being continuously updated. Additional technical assistance was provided for improvement of the program's information system as well as support for the establishment of a social registry. With support from the World Bank, the project implementation unit is working to integrate data from the Youth Employment and Skills Development project.

The Burkina Faso team provided significant technical assistance to the government to develop its COVID-19 response plan.

The team quickly mobilized at the onset of the pandemic to ensure that the government leveraged the adaptive systems that have been built during the SASPP first phase. Leveraging the systems would allow for a quicker response and also enable the response to further strengthen these systems. Discussions with the government ensured an adapted response was planned, through targeting of new beneficiaries, making use of an updated and adapted targeting methodology, and relying on existing payment systems.

Burkina Faso FY21 workplan (funded by the SASPP MDTF)

| Building block | Bank executed | Recipient executed |
|---|---|--|
| Government leadership and institutional arrangements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical assistance to the legal and institutional framework, particularly on targeting and registry governance • Operational brief on the application of targeting in social protection programming | |
| Data and Information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A key social protection aspect that needs to be developed in Burkina Faso is the registry. The World Bank team will work with partners on building consensus around the registry through stakeholder workshops on a roadmap toward a unified social registry. It will also begin discussion on the development of a harmonized data collection instrument. • During the last year, SASPP funds have financed a local consultant to establish a diagnostic of the early warning system. The analysis included a stock-taking of the various actors in the humanitarian and social protection areas, the existing early warning system process, and a tentative proposal for an improved consensual cooperation and coordination process. The World Bank team will prepare a workshop to develop a coordination framework on the early warning system with partners. | Expansion and update of the social registry |
| Programs and delivery systems | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expansion of COVID-19 shock response • Reinforcement of payment systems |
| Finance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To plan ahead for the additional financing, the project implementation unit, with support from the World Bank, developed an in-depth financial planning tool adapted to the needs of the project. Including additional funds for the adaptive safety net will require technical assistance to the project implementation unit to update this tool and adapt it to the new context. • In FY21, the team will begin a stocktaking exercise on financing instruments currently available to the government. | |

CHAD

Chad's SASPP activities are anchored in the Refugees and Host Communities Support Project (PARCA).

The first safety net project in Chad, which benefited from a \$5 million SASPP contribution, officially closed on April 30, 2020. As a result of the country's success in piloting ASP systems, the ASP agenda is being expanded in Chad through the ongoing PARCA, which was approved in FY18 in the amount of \$60 million. Additional financing of \$81 million is slated, including a \$6 million contribution from the SASPP MDTF to support the government's COVID-19 response.² PARCA is intended to increase access to refugees and host communities

²The government of Chad requested World Bank support for its social protection COVID-19 response program. MDTF financing of \$6 million was allocated in early FY21 as part of additional financing for PARCA, drawing on an unspent U.K. allocation to the SASPP phase 1 Mali and Senegal programs and an additional contribution from Denmark. Denmark officially joined the SASPP MDTF in early FY21.

to basic services, livelihoods, and safety nets across seven provinces in Chad that host refugees. PARCA intends to increase safety net coverage through targeted cash transfers and productive inclusion activities to nearly 140,000 households, as well as increasing access to basic social services through rehabilitating existing structures or building new ones for nearly 800,000 community members.

Key developments in FY20

Chad is a large, landlocked, sparsely populated country with some of the worst human development indicators in the world. Nearly half (47 percent) of its population of 15 million lives under the poverty line. While this represents a decrease in the share of poor from 2003 (57 percent), the absolute number of poor was projected to increase to 6.3 million (from 4.7 million) by 2019.³ A child born in Chad will only be 29 percent as productive as she could have been had she enjoyed full education and full health, according to the World Bank Human Capital Index. The influx of refugees across three of its borders has increased pressures on Chad's already limited resources and precarious situation. Chad currently hosts 482,000 refugees settled in 19 refugee camps; these account for about 3 percent of Chad's total population. In addition, there are 297,000 IDPs in Chad, mostly in the Lac Chad region in the west. Chad is particularly vulnerable to climate shocks, which disproportionately affect the poor and vulnerable. It was ranked as the country most vulnerable to the effects of climate change in 2017 and ranks third on the INFORM index which assesses countries' risk of humanitarian crisis and disaster relative to their ability to respond, meaning it faces a very high risk.⁴ The index assesses hazard and exposure, vulnerability, and coping capacity. Not only is Chad highly exposed to natural and human crises (floods, droughts, conflict), coupled with a highly vulnerable population, it also has a low capacity to respond.

The COVID-19 pandemic adds another burden on the country. Chad confirmed its first COVID-19 case on March 19; however, prior to this, it had taken progressively restrictive lockdown measures beginning March 16. Notably, Chad restricted all air and land travel, effectively closing its borders, as well as closing schools and other public places. While some measures have been lifted, four provinces and the capital city of Ndjamená are still under curfew and face some restrictions on mobility. The government has requested World Bank support in implementing a COVID-19 response.

³ The latest poverty data available for Chad are from 2011.

⁴ Source: <https://drmhc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/inform-index/INFORM-Risk>. The INFORM Risk Index is a global, open-source risk assessment for humanitarian crises and disasters.

Recipient-executed activities

An implementation and completion report evaluating the success of Chad's Safety Net Project found it was satisfactory in achieving its outcomes. The Safety Net Project managed to establish the building blocks of an adaptive safety net system by putting in place a unified social registry, which will serve as the database for all social protection and humanitarian responses. It also developed targeting and payment systems and put a management information system in place. While the project faced some challenges as a result of low technical capacity on the ground, it nonetheless excelled in many of its intended objectives, such as the shock cash transfer and productive inclusion activities. This finding was substantiated by the World Bank's Independent Evaluation Group.

While the Safety Net Project closed in April 2020, most activities were completed in September 2019. In FY20, the team completed the productive inclusion activities, which had begun the previous fiscal year, by reaching the



remaining 500 beneficiaries. This included training a final set of beneficiaries and completing a grant transfer to the beneficiaries. In all, 2,000 cash transfer beneficiaries received productive inclusion training.

Bank-executed activities

The SASPP allowed for significant technical assistance to establish the foundations of the safety net system that are now being built upon in the new, significantly larger PARCA project. The technical assistance supported (1) development and expansion of a social registry, in collaboration with humanitarian actors; (2) development of payment, M&E, identification, registration, and information systems; (3) capacity-building activities; and (4) analytical work through impact evaluations and qualitative assessments.

During FY20, the Chad SASPP team finalized an impact evaluation on the regular cash transfer program as well as an in-depth qualitative study to be published in FY21. The impact evaluation assessed the impact of cash transfers on households, men, and women. The results revealed that cash transfers can play an important role not only in consumption smoothing but also in productive outcomes—and particularly for women. The cash transfers led to women earning more profits, opening businesses, and diversifying their livelihoods. The qualitative assessment of the cash transfer program focused on spillover effects of cash transfers. The study found a number of positive impacts on the welfare of noncash transfer beneficiaries (residing in beneficiary villages). On the other hand, it also documented some community tensions arising on the part of households excluded from the program.

While Chad was not part of the regional SASPP productive inclusion impact evaluation, it nonetheless designed and implemented a similar study. During the summer of 2019, Chad designed and implemented a productive inclusion intervention targeting 2,000 cash transfer beneficiaries with the support of the regional productive inclusion team. It undertook a baseline survey prior to implementation of the intervention and intends to undertake the first follow-up in FY21.

Chad FY21 workplan (funded by the SASPP MDTF)

| Building block | Bank executed | Recipient executed |
|---|--|---|
| Government leadership and institutional arrangements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government of Chad is currently developing a new National Social Protection Strategy based on an assessment of lessons learned from the first strategy. The team will provide support to the development of the strategy, ensuring that ASP principles are well reflected, thus cementing their strategic relevance. For the unified social registry and the early warning system to be effective, they need to be properly staffed and work as an operational unit. The World Bank team will assess the current management structure of both entities and provide technical assistance to advise the government on the definition of a proper management unit. The team will support efforts to establish a coordination body around the unified social registry through workshops with government and partners to detail the entity's needs and protocols. | |
| Data and Information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake midline survey for productive inclusion impact evaluation and analyze impact data at the midline | |
| Programs and delivery systems | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work on upgrading the basic ASP tools with a strong focus on management information systems and review of potential payment mechanism options Technical assistance for productive and human development accompanying measures | COVID-19 shock response cash transfers in urban areas |
| Finance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrate public expenditure review of Poverty Global Practice and collaborate on methodology for social protection expenditure review | |

MALI

Mali SASPP activities are anchored in the Jigiséméjiri Social Safety Net project, which was approved in 2014. The objective of the project and its subsequent additional financings is to build an adaptive national safety net system and increase access to targeted cash transfers. The Jigiséméjiri project has established the building blocks of an ASP system, through an IDA contribution of \$70 million topped up by additional financing of \$52 million and a \$12.4 million contribution from the SASPP MDTF. The project has successfully provided safety net transfers to 91,000 households as well as shock cash transfers to nearly 30,000 households. In addition, it supported nearly 8,000 public works beneficiaries. However, the security situation in Mali has continuously worsened over the last few years, with significant repercussions on the political landscape.

Key developments in FY20

Mali's political and security situation has been volatile since the 2012 coup d'état and following the Algiers Peace Agreement in 2015. Specifically, the northern and central parts of the country have experienced progressively worsening security conditions. While Mali hosts 45,000 refugees, it has a growing

IDP population of nearly 290,000. The growing insecurity has led to many protests against the government, culminating in a coup in August 2020.

Mali's growing political and security instability are occurring alongside the COVID-19 pandemic. Mali confirmed its first COVID-19 case on March 25. The government quickly instituted lockdown measures, imposing a curfew, closing borders and schools, and limiting gatherings and occupancy in vehicles. As of August, Mali has reported approximately 2,500 cases. The previous government, with the support of the World Bank, was preparing a COVID-19 response to provide support to households affected by the pandemic and lockdown; this has been put on hold, given the current political turmoil.

Recipient-executed activities

The SASPP MDTF funded several activities in Mali during FY20, all but one of which were completed and fully achieved. In terms of income-generating activities, the project reached its target of 10,000 beneficiaries in FY19. Currently, a process evaluation is under way to assess the relevance and quality of the technical assistance that was provided by the NGOs for this intervention (especially in terms of duration and support to accessing markets) and the viability of the activities. Changes for the second phase of income-generating activities will include targeting female members of households and pairing funding and technical assistance with the organization of village savings and loan groups, remote training, and small group meetings in response to COVID-19 mobility restrictions.

SASPP funding supported the provision of cash transfers with accompanying measures (behavior change training) to 3,000 households in Gao, Youwarou, and Nianfunke. The Jigiséméjiri project provides 12 quarterly cash transfers of CFAF 15,000 for three years. In the course of the ASP program, 3,004 poor and vulnerable households in Youwarou (231 households), Nianfunke (1,252 households), and Gao (1,521 households) were identified to benefit from regular cash transfers. The project was able to complete the 12 payments in Youwarou and Nianfunke, with 1,431 beneficiaries receiving their last 5 payments in the two areas (two payments were grouped because of delays due to insecurity). On the other hand, the beneficiaries in Gao only received 4 of the 12 payments over the course of the program. Delays in payments here were due to insecurity in the area and challenges faced by the payment agency, which led to contracting with a new agency. The program is shifting to electronic payment to overcome the constraints related to insecurity. Community participation in accompanying measures related to behavior change trainings on child development, girls' education, and family planning conducted by NGOs was successful. Over 15,000 households in the three areas had benefited from accompanying measures by the end of December 2019.

The SASPP was expected to support implementation of 400 microprojects through labor-intensive public works.

The number of labor-intensive public works participants increased from 5,553 in July 2019 to 7,994 in December 2019. This was a result of work beginning on 303 of the 400 microproject sites; the materials were provided either by the project or the communities. However, as of December 2019 at the close of SASPP phase 1 activities, only 59 community assets were fully built or restored with works completed in Kita, Niore, and Bamako Commune III. The resulting unspent resources from the Mali labor-intensive public works program were reallocated to Chad for its FY21 COVID-19 response. All other microprojects were suspended because of delays in procurement. A field evaluation will be conducted as soon as the political situation and COVID-19 restrictions allow assessment of the state of the works and a decision to be made on completion through IDA funds from the main project or cancellation.

The SASPP fund contributed to the expansion of the unified social registry.

The social registry was officially launched in November 2019 by the minister of health and social affairs, creating a pathway toward its formalization. The launch benefited from financial and technical support from the World Bank, the WFP, UNICEF, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations through a working group set up and led by the government. Mali's unified social registry was scaled up from 300,000 households in July 2019 to 332,000 households in December 2019. This includes households from the Jigiséméjiri project (using the harmonized questionnaire); noncontributory health insurance (Agence Nationale d'Assistance Médicale—ANAM); the Régime d'Assurance Maladie pour les Économiquement Démunis (RAMED); IDPs and returnees with data from the Direction Nationale du Développement Social; beneficiaries of NGO interventions funded by the European Union's KEY program; and beneficiaries of programs implemented by Alliance for Community Resilience—Action Contre la Faim, Solidarité Internationale, and Miseli. As of December 2019, the social registry also included over 50,000 households whose data was collected using the full harmonized questionnaire.

Bank-executed activities**The World Bank supported the preparation of the annual action plan (2020–24) of Mali's social protection policy.**

As a member of the development partners working group on social protection, the World Bank participated in the evaluation of Mali's social protection policy's action plan 2016–18 and development of the new action plan 2020–24.

The World Bank team offered technical support to the government of Mali for its COVID-19 response.

The government initially envisaged a large horizontal expansion of shock-response cash transfers through the Jigiséméjiri project,

but implementation was aborted by the August military coup d'état. Technical discussions with the government at the time reviewed options for an emergency response plan targeting those households affected by the pandemic, particularly in urban and semi-urban areas. Options included shock-response cash transfers (and productive inclusion measures, as well as investments in updating and expanding the social registry. The Jigiséméjiri project would provide assistance to populations affected by the coronavirus pandemic (1) through cash transfers to 20,000 households, mostly in urban and semi-urban areas; and (2) an update/intake of data for 50,000 households in the registry. The shock-response cash transfers would target households not previously targeted but becoming poor (urban households, informal workers in poverty and/or pre-crisis vulnerability) and likely to fall into chronic poverty due to the pandemic.

Mali FY21 workplan (funded by the SASPP MDTF)

| Building block | Bank executed | Recipient executed |
|---|---|---|
| Government leadership and institutional arrangements | Focus on enhancing the partnership with the WFP throughout FY21 with a focus on developing joint tools for program implementation and communication | |
| Data and Information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalize tweaks to the behavioral accompanying measures in line with findings from the first impact evaluation Finalize a study begun by the team on the impacts of public works, which was halted due to COVID-19 Work with humanitarian and government actors on health issues related to climate shocks (acute respiratory infections, diarrhea, acute malnutrition, cholera, malaria, and dengue) as well as analyses of the impacts of access to health insurance on human capital | Intake of additional 50,000 households in the registry |
| Programs and delivery systems | Undertake a review of the processes to gather local-level data and the overall data collection protocol for the early warning system with the aim of recommending improvements and to automate inputs which would go into vulnerability maps | Emergency cash transfer to 20,000 urban and peri-urban households |
| Finance | Review financing options explored by other countries and draw on lessons learned | |

MAURITANIA

The Mauritania SASPP activities are anchored in the new Social Safety Net System Project II, which seeks to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the nationwide adaptive safety net system and to increase coverage. The project was approved by the World Bank Board in April 2020 and will allow for continuation and expansion of the ASP agenda. The approved budget for the new project is \$72 million, including as a \$7 million contribution from the SASPP MDTF. Through the new project, which became effective in June 2020, Tekavoul, Mauritania's safety net program, intends to reach 100,000 beneficiary households by the end of 2021; nearly 55,000 of these would be funded by the government, with the rest funded by IDA. The first Safety Net System Project (which was approved in 2015) will officially close on October 31, 2020, having reached 34,000 households through regular cash transfers.

Key developments in FY20

Though Mauritania suffers from lower levels of poverty than much of the Sahel, it nonetheless faces challenges pertaining to climate change, fragility, and human development. Mauritania ranks among the 20 lowest-ranked countries in terms of the World Bank's Human Capital Index: a child born in Mauritania today will only be 37 percent as productive as she could have been had she enjoyed full health and education. In addition, Mauritania hosts over 60,000 refugees, most of whom are from Mali. This exacerbates an already precarious food security situation in the country. The percentage of food-insecure households sits at 20 percent during the postharvest season, and surges to 26 percent during the lean season. This situation has been worsened with the onset of COVID-19.

Mauritania's first COVID-19 case was registered on March 13. By July 2020, Mauritania had nearly 5,000 cases. The government decided to provide swift support to the most vulnerable households with a cash transfer to relieve some of the impact of the COVID-19 lockdown. Using the social registry for the most part, the government provided 206,000 rural and urban households across Mauritania with a one-off cash transfer. A second round is planned to target the same households with another cash transfer with IDA, SASPP MDTF, and AFD financing alongside government budgetary resources.

Recipient-executed activities

Significant progress was made in strengthening the social registry in FY20. The social registry was expanded with an additional 35,600 households, for a total of 174,000 households (relative to an objective of 200,000). The targeting methodology was also revised to account for specificities pertaining to urban

dimensions. By the end of 2019, the government and 10 humanitarian partners were using the registry.⁵ In December 2019, the government and the World Bank convened a workshop to discuss lessons learned from partners on the development and use of the social registry for shock response.

Tekavoul supported a process evaluation of the pilot SASPP productive inclusion activities in December 2019. This evaluation will feed into the design of productive inclusion interventions in the new safety net project. Productive inclusion activities will be part of the exit strategy for beneficiaries who no longer meet the targeting criteria for cash transfers.

The shock-responsive safety net program Elmaouna is implemented by the Food Security Office. Elmaouna aims to assist poor households affected by any type of covariate shock that affects their economic capacity and well-being. In June 2019 (FY19), the third shock-response cash transfer was launched, reaching 3,800 households. This response continued until September 2019, providing support to the same beneficiaries. The program builds on the existing social registry, as well as the Tekavoul payment platform. Coordination was strengthened through several consultation workshops with humanitarian actors (the WFP, NGOs) in order to harmonize modalities and areas of intervention.

Bank-executed activities

In FY20, the World Bank continued to support the Mauritanian government in its implementation of the ASP agenda through operationalization of the ASP building blocks.

- **Government leadership and institutional framework.** A consultation framework involving several ministries under the aegis of an adviser to the prime minister met to define the principles of an institutional mechanism for crisis prevention, early warning, and response. This process should lead to the adoption of a decree establishing the system in 2021.
- **Information and data.** The WFP undertook a needs assessment of the Food Security Observatory to determine key areas requiring further strengthening in 2019. A strengthening plan has been developed based on its findings and will be jointly supported by the World Bank and the WFP. In addition, the World Bank team continued its support toward strengthening the food-insecurity predictive

⁵Tekavoul, CSA, Oxfam, the WFP, SNDP, Médicos del Mundo, Action Contre la Faim, Save the Children, Inaya, and World Vision International.



model, which provides a scientific basis for further analysis that could eventually feed into the Cadre Harmonisé.

- **Programs and delivery systems.** The SASPP made it possible to finance ongoing technical assistance to strengthen and supervise implementation of the social registry and the Elmaouna program.
- **Finance.** The World Bank developed a policy note on the shock financing strategy that was presented and discussed with the government.

Mauritania FY21 workplan (funded by the SASPP MDTF)

| Building block | Bank executed | Recipient executed |
|---|--|--|
| Government leadership and institutional arrangements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical support for drafting preliminary decree establishing a National Food and Nutrition Crisis Prevention and Response Mechanism (DNPRCAN) • Support establishment of standard operating procedures related to the shock response framework that will detail responsibilities to develop, supervise, and assess annual response plan related to food and nutritional insecurity • Implementation of annual World Bank-WFP action plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption and implementation of DNPRCAN • Operationalization of DNPRCAN (technical capacity building, equipment support, recruitment of expertise, etc.). • Revitalizing governance of the national social protection strategy |
| Data and Information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint WFP-UNICEF-World Bank study for revision of social registry methodology and strengthening inclusion of poor households • Capitalization workshop on use of the social registry and updated methodology manual for its use in responding to shocks • Inclusion of semi-urban areas in the food insecurity predictive model and study of food insecurity in urban areas (Nouakchott and Nouadhibou) to improve the predictive model (jointly with WFP) • Study on optimization of the use of Food Security Monitoring Survey (jointly with WFP) • Analysis of the 2020 poverty survey to develop new poverty maps • WFP/World Bank/UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) study on the risks of gender-based violence and means of mitigation for refugee populations and the host population • Organization of a joint WFP/UNHCR social registry workshop on harmonization of data collected on refugees | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalization of the social registry data collection in urban areas (Nouakchott and Nouadhibou) • Household profile survey of the social registry household database • Implementation of a system for managing household cards from the social registry in a pilot zone in Guidimakha • Launch of the complete update of the social registry (3-year cycle) • Implementation of two Food Security Monitoring Surveys (September 2020 and February 2021) • Organization of a government-partner consultation workshop on early warning system tools and design of related standard operating procedures • Development of a communication platform for better dissemination of information within the Food Security Observatory |
| Programs and delivery systems | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design economic inclusion package for households exiting the Tekavoul program (graduation strategy) • Design and implement gender intervention pilot (family dialogue on use of resources) and undertake related baseline survey • Needs assessment of payment platform and review of potential options • Technical assistance to scale up the shock-responsive program Elmaouna in 2021 • Support for development of an operational flood response manual by Elmaouna • Support for capitalization of the 2020 response of Elmaouna and partners of the response | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 safety net response to 210,000 households jointly with AFD (November 2020); the intervention will be nationwide and based on the social registry database • Phase 2 of COVID-19 response: support to 36,000 vulnerable households during the 2021 lean season to help them cope with the impact of the pandemic and climate shock; beneficiaries will be selected from the social registry based on food insecurity and exposure to COVID-19 impact-related criteria • Pilot the Tekavoul extension for shocks: besides the shock-responsive program Elmaouna, Tekavoul will pilot a horizontal/vertical extension to support some of the 36,000 households during the lean season |
| Finance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support dialogue and initial steps to develop a shock-financing framework (in line with the diagnostic and policy note developed during phase 1) • Expenditure review of the country's social protection system (assessment of main social protection schemes in terms of coverage, expenditure, and benefit levels) | Establishment of a government/donor consultation framework focusing on a roadmap for shock financing strategy |

NIGER

Niger's SASPP activities are anchored in the new Niger Adaptive Safety Net Project 2. The first Niger Safety Net Project, which benefited from a \$8.5 million contribution from the SASPP MDTF under phase 1, officially closed in December 2019. The new Niger Adaptive Safety Net Project 2 (ASP2) was officially launched toward the end of 2019. An implementation and completion report evaluating the project found it was satisfactory in achieving its outcomes.

ASP2, funded with an \$80 million IDA contribution, seeks to improve the capacity of the country's adaptive safety net system to respond to shocks and to increase coverage. The project seeks to reach nearly 130,000 new beneficiaries through regular cash transfers, shock-responsive cash transfers, productive inclusion measures, and cash for work interventions. The project is set to receive substantial additional financing in FY21, which would significantly increase its reach and scope in ensuring a response to floods and COVID-19.



Key developments in FY20

Niger is one of the poorest countries in the world, with its precarious situation further affected by a multitude of shocks. While its poverty rate decreased nearly 10 percentage points between 2005 and 2014, the onset of COVID-19 is reversing gains in poverty reduction. In addition, Niger faces severe climate shocks which are manifested in droughts and floods, the most recent of which have affected over 350,000 individuals. The country is also faced with a growing forced displacement situation, with 230,000 refugees and 266,000 IDPs as a result of mounting insecurity.

In line with its social emergency response to COVID-19, the government of Niger requested World Bank support through the ASP2 project to mitigate the immediate and longer-term socioeconomic impacts of the pandemic on poorest and most vulnerable. To enable timely implementation of the emergency COVID-19 cash transfer response program and to provide critical financial support to the poorest households, the ASP2 project was restructured, and funding has been reallocated between disbursement categories.

The COVID-19 response program will follow a two-stage approach: provision of emergency support in the short run and building resilience in the longer run. The emergency COVID-19 cash transfer program focuses on delivery of emergency one-off transfers to poor and vulnerable households in urban centers and rural areas. In the medium and longer run, the beneficiaries of the emergency COVID-19 cash transfer program will be able to apply for the adaptive social cash transfer program and, if eligible, benefit from a 24-month monthly cash transfer program and accompanying measures. The expansion of the emergency COVID-19 response program on urban areas required urgent development of a targeting methodology adapted for the urban context. The urban proxy means testing formula was developed and validated in July, enabling the Cellule Filets Sociaux (CFS) to use it in identifying urban households most vulnerable to the economic consequences of the pandemic.

Recipient-executed activities

When the first safety net project closed in December 2019, all its activities had been completed long before. MDTF financing for the new project, ASP2, is being programmed (including to accommodate new MDTF financing for COVID-19 response) as part of a large additional financing with IDA and MDTF financing. The SASPP MDTF has leveraged significant IDA resources on the ASP agenda in FY20. In 2020, implementation of the first phase of the cash transfer for the resilience program was launched under ASP2. A total of 64,000 households in 340 villages in 23 communes located in the 8 regions of Niger were surveyed in February–March 2020 as part of the program's household selection process. Following data collection, the CFS calculated the proxy means testing score for each household, and 28,000 of the poorest households were selected to participate in the two-year cash transfer for resilience program. While COVID-19-related travel restrictions caused a four- to six-week delay in payment of the first transfers, all beneficiary households have been receiving regular monthly transfers since May/June.

Launch of implementation of the cash for work program suffered a short delay due to COVID-19 travel restrictions and limits on gatherings. Program implementation has since been launched, and about 40 microprojects have been

selected by the CFS. Of these, 25 focus on land restoration and management, and 15 on building communal infrastructure. Grievance redress committees have been established in the 105 villages where the cash for work program has been implemented. Beneficiaries were selected in June and have benefited from cash for work transfers during the summer.

Bank-executed activities

In FY20, the SASPP supported technical assistance for the design and preparation of a drought-response program to be launched in October 2020. The objective of the drought-response program is to develop a mechanism for scaling-up assistance to poor and vulnerable households in response to drought immediately at the end of the rainy season, based on the idea that the lag existing between the climate-related shock and the economic shock represents an opportunity for early response. The shock-response pilot is designed to be activated automatically in response to drought using a satellite-based trigger. Once the predefined trigger has been reached, the shock-response cash transfer program is scaled up and coverage extended to additional beneficiary households. The ability to automatically scale up cash transfers immediately after the climate shock is expected to prevent households' consumption from dropping after drought periods and to protect their livelihoods and assets—leading to a more rapid postcrisis recovery. Preparation of the drought-response pilot program was conducted by the CFS, which led the steering committee in charge of designing the pilot program. This committee included members of the national early warning system, the Ministry of Agriculture, the African Risk Capacity representative in Niger, the I3N initiative, and the CFS project implementation unit.

In FY 2020, the World Bank team began conversations with the Nigerian government on the importance of disaster risk financing in ensuring timely response to shocks, and the key steps toward development of a disaster risk financing framework for shock response. Technical assistance has been provided to start preparing a disaster risk financing diagnostic, analyzing the financing landscape for disaster response in Niger. The diagnostic seeks to improve understanding of how response activities to natural disasters, especially droughts, are financed in Niger by analyzing the historical fiscal impact on government and donor budgets, including an analysis of contingent liabilities. It will also take stock of available financing instruments for disaster response and, pending data availability, evaluate their performance. Finally, the diagnostic will look to explore financing options that would enable expansion of core social protection programs and scale-up of interventions in case of shocks.

The World Bank team provided significant technical assistance to the government in preparing its COVID-19 response plan. The government of Niger, with World Bank support, has developed the foundations of an ASP system which it is leveraging in its COVID-19 response. The World Bank team engaged in sustained technical preparation efforts with the government, as well as with partners such as the WFP and UNICEF, to agree on the nature of the response and to coordinate key elements. The first payment, which occurred in September 2020, was the result of several months of close collaboration between the government, the World Bank, and other partners.

Niger FY21 workplan (funded by the SASPP MDTF)

| Building block | Bank executed | Recipient executed |
|---|--|--|
| Government leadership and institutional arrangements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue dialogue with government and counterparts on integration and prominence of ASP in new strategy and develop M&E framework Roadmap for strengthening ASP based on public expenditure review recommendations Mapping of productive inclusion programs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthening the regulatory framework to enable flood response Support for the work of the intersectoral ASP committee |
| Data and Information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical assistance for strengthening the M&E system in the CFS project implementation unit Technical assistance for development and strengthening of the unified social registry Technical note for revision and update of the targeting methodology Option paper and a roadmap for development of the unified social registry Working paper on the impact of the productive inclusion package Dissemination workshop for impact evaluation results Process evaluation report for the drought-response pilot | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of the proxy means testing formula for urban beneficiaries and update of the proxy means testing rural formula Expansion of the social registry to include flood and drought-response beneficiaries |
| Programs and delivery systems | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Options paper for development of floods shock-response program Review evidence on behavioral accompanying measures and design and pilot for shock response accompanying measures Outline for modernization of benefit payment system Technical assistance to strengthen cash for work component | 50,000 households, beneficiaries of the emergency COVID-19 cash transfer program, will be able to apply for the adaptive social cash transfer program and, if eligible, benefit from 24-month monthly cash transfer program and its accompanying measures to help households smooth their consumption and cope with the loss of income thanks to productive investments and upward savings |
| Finance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diagnostic for shock-responsive financing Training for the committee on disaster risk financing principles | Support to functioning of shock-response financing committee |

SENEGAL

Senegal SASPP activities are anchored in the Senegal Social Safety Net project. This project, which was approved in FY14, has benefited from IDA and SASPP contributions on the order of \$105 million (\$11 million from the SASPP MDTF), and seeks to establish the building blocks of a social safety net system, as well as increase coverage of targeted and adaptive cash transfers to poor and vulnerable households. The project aims to reach over 70,000 households, specifically through shock cash transfers, agricultural transfers, and productive inclusion activities; it also aims to enroll 300,000 households in the National Family Security Transfers Program.

Key developments in FY20

Senegal fares relatively well in terms of political stability and security as compared to its Sahel neighbors, though it still suffers from high poverty and severe climate shocks. While Senegal's Human Capital Index is higher than its Sahel peers at 0.42 (meaning a child born today in Senegal is only 42 percent as productive as she could have been), its poverty rates are very similar. Nearly half of the Senegalese population can be considered poor. Climate change exacerbates this situation, with recent estimates suggesting that Senegal could lose up to 8 percent of its gross domestic product by 2030 due to climate change. COVID-19 has further aggravated the situation, with the World Bank estimating that up to 800,000 people could fall into poverty.

Senegal has maintained steady progress toward establishing the pillars of a social protection system in FY20. The nationwide social registry has been going through the final steps of its first full update. The transfers provided as part of the regular cash transfer program were fully covered by the domestic budget, freeing up external resources to focus on shock-responsive assistance and productive inclusion measures. The large-scale pilot of productive inclusion activities for cash transfer beneficiaries was wrapped up successfully.

The response to the COVID-19 crisis built on the foundations of the ASP system. The national social registry was fully leveraged by the government to organize assistance to populations and gained prominence as the core targeting tool for social policy. The registry of small-scale workshops populated for the youth employment operation was used to channel support to informal urban workers. At the same time, the government did not use the established cash transfer mechanism; instead, it organized a massive—and controversial—distribution of food across the country.

The ongoing response to extensive floods in the summer of 2020 accelerates progress toward the adoption of efficient shock-response mechanisms through ASP. Senegal's highest authorities immediately decided to leverage the social protection system to deliver rapid assistance to flood-affected households. Fast progress is in the line of sight, with significant policy reforms for social protection scheduled in FY21.

Recipient-executed activities

In FY20, SASPP funds were used to support shock-responsive cash transfers and productive inclusion activities. The small-scale pilot of an efficient response to fires was completed successfully, and lessons were shared with the government. The pilot program was designed and implemented leveraging the ASP system: utilization of the national registry for rapid targeting, delivery of cash transfers using existing payment methods, and deployment of trained operators to assess the extent of damages. An independent process evaluation was carried out with support from the SASPP. It showed the adequacy of the methodology to respond to shocks and highlighted satisfaction by both beneficiaries and service providers. The evaluation's recommendation was to adjust some operational protocols (the assessment process, the differentiation of compensation amounts) and use this experience as a blueprint for larger shock-response programs. In addition, the productive inclusion program completed its 18-month cycle with the disbursement of cash grants to all beneficiaries.

Other planned activities were canceled due to COVID-19. These include assistance to poor smallholder farmers to access distribution of subsidized inputs, which could not take place in the months of May and June as planned. The preparation of targeted support during the lean season was also abandoned, as the government focused on the COVID-19 response and did not validate a food security emergency plan in 2020.

Bank-executed activities

The phase 1 analytical and technical assistance program was closed in FY20. The SASPP supported the following analytical pieces: (1) a note on the potential of ASP systems to increase the equity of social spending across sectors, which was included in high-level communication material with the government and discussed with officials from the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Economy, and other sectoral ministries; (2) a comprehensive process evaluation of the productive inclusion program in Senegal, which will inform the potential scale-up of the program in the context of post-COVID-19 recovery.

The SASPP also supported other areas of critical technical assistance.

These included technical assistance for development of a risk financing strategy, preparation of a response to floods anchored in ASP systems, collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture on meaningful interventions to boost the resilience of smallholder farmers, and joint work with the WFP on estimating the market impacts of COVID-19. In regard to the risk financing strategy, the Senegal team drew on expertise from several groups at the World Bank to organize analytical work and workshops with Senegalese counterparts on the need and ways to strengthen the country's risk financing strategy. High-level counterparts at the Ministry of Finance were involved in the dialogue. The hope is to support the government in its objective to set up cost-effective and sustainable financing mechanisms for shock-response programs.

Senegal FY21 workplan (funded by the SASPP MDTF)

| Building block | Bank executed | Recipient executed |
|---|---|--|
| Government leadership and institutional arrangements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuous technical assistance helping the government draft legal texts, designing and promoting operational processes of ASP systems, including the creation of a shock-response program Common action plan with WFP | Convening workshops and seminars to promote the use of ASP systems across sectors and for all emergency assistance programs |
| Data and Information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analytical note on the characteristics of unified social registry households Technical assistance to finalize expansion of the unified social registry Updating of the operational manual to extend the unified social registry to areas most vulnerable to food insecurity Begin to draft manuals for the use of early warning system data to respond to floods and on the use of satellite index data for monitoring drought | Expansion of the registry to cover more households vulnerable in the post-COVID-19 context and/or in areas vulnerable to climate change |
| Programs and delivery systems | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define an exit strategy and accompanying measures Assess options for scale-up of support in response to fires Report on the process and impact evaluations of the Yook Kom Kom pilot Operational manual for the intervention on access to subsidized agricultural inputs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scale up the productive inclusion program in both urban and rural areas to meet the challenge of recovery in the post-COVID-19 context Deliver efficient response to floods at the national scale Plan response to food insecurity for the lean/hunger season in 2021 Deliver targeted support to poor and vulnerable smallholder farmers to access subsidized inputs |
| Finance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diagnostic of shock-response financing Ad hoc response financing strategy | |

5

SASPP phase 1 results framework

The results framework presented in this section was prepared in 2014 and has guided phase 1 of the SASPP. It reflects indicators from the results tracked for the phase 1 United Kingdom FCDO contribution, which are presented in the following table. FY20 is the last year of reporting against this results framework, presented below. Phase 2 will feature an entirely new results framework reflective of the refocused strategic objective of strengthening ASP systems in the Sahel and of results closely linked to activities supported by the program.

| Indicator | Status | Target | Achievement | Comments | WB/FCDO indicator designation |
|---|--------------------------|-----------|-----------------|---|---|
| Spending on social protection, including government and donor spending | Met | 0.6 | 0.6 | Governments of the six countries have respected their commitments to invest in social protection. | WB Project Development Objective Indicator 1; FCDO Outcome Indicator 2 |
| Capacity of countries' social protection systems to implement ASP programs | Not met | 4.0 | 3.8 | Important progress has been realized in all countries toward strengthening capacity of social protection systems to implement ASP programs. All countries met their objective; some institutional and leadership issues among government entities negatively affected the final result. | WB Project Development Objective Indicator 2; FCDO Output Indicator 1.1 |
| People benefiting from ASP programs supported by the trust fund | Exceeded | 1,902,970 | 1,981,602 | This target was exceeded in all countries except Niger. The small increase from FY19 is a result of additional public works activities in Mali. | WB Project Development Objective Indicator 3; FCDO Outcome Indicator 1 |
| Government staff trained on social protection policy, delivery, and M&E through the trust fund | Not met | 1,035 | 1,012 | Trainings mainly focused on cash transfers, ASP systems, and targeting. No change registered between FY19 and FY20. | WB Intermediate Results Indicator 3; FCDO Outcome Output 1.5 |
| Assessments of poverty, climate change risk, and other vulnerabilities commissioned by the trust fund | Not met | 26 | 24 | While the WB team met the initial target of 21, it fell short of the slightly revised target of completing additional assessments in FY20, despite several ongoing initiatives. | WB Intermediate Results Indicator 4; FCDO Output Indicator 2.1 |
| Evaluations, assessments, and studies creating lessons from ASP programs supported by the trust fund | Commissioned: Not met | 71 | 60 | | WB Intermediate Results Indicator 5; FCDO Output Indicator 2.2 |
| | Published: Met | 30 | 30 ^a | | |
| Knowledge exchange and dissemination activities supported by the trust fund | National: Met | 53 | 53 | Target numbers were met in Burkina Faso, Niger, and Senegal. During FY20, two workshops in Niger presented results from the productive inclusion impact evaluation in Niger to government as well as discussed options for triggers for early warning system. | WB Intermediate Results Indicator 6; FCDO Output Indicator 2.4 |
| | Regional: Met | 7 | 7 | During FY20, a workshop in Senegal brought together the six SASPP countries, disaster risk management and disaster recovery framework experts, humanitarian partners and climate experts. | |

(continued)

| Indicator | Status | Target | Achievement | Comments | WB/FCDO indicator designation |
|---|----------|--------------|--------------------------|---|---|
| Number of households receiving cash through cash-based interventions (transfers and public works) supported by the trust fund | Exceeded | 95,000 | 98,205 | The increase from FY19 is attributable to the additional public works beneficiaries in Mali. | WB Intermediate Results Indicator 8; FCDO Output Indicator 1.3 |
| Adaptation-related community assets created/rehabilitated through support by the trust fund | Not met | 500 | 394 | Mali and Niger did not meet their targets. Progress in these countries on this indicator was hindered by delays on the part of the government implementing unit in implementing activities. | WB Intermediate Results Indicator 10; FCDO Output Indicator 1.4 |
| Government-led social protection programs that incorporate adaptation and risk reduction | Met | 11 | 11 | All countries have met their targets. | WB Intermediate Results Indicator 11; FCDO Output Indicator 1.2 |
| Percentage of children under 5 who are underweight | Not met | 24.3 | 27.1 ^b | The share of underweight children remained relatively stable over the year. | WB Impact Indicator 1; FCDO Impact Indicator 1 |
| Number of food-insecure people | Met | 12.1 million | 8.4 million ^c | This number is based on the cadre of harmonized projection for June–August 2020 and does not include the potential impact of COVID-19. | WB Impact Indicator 2; FCDO Impact Indicator 3 |
| The extent to which planned interventions are likely to have transformational impact | Not met | 4.2 | 3.8 | Fast-deteriorating security conditions led to an increased number of internally displaced people in Burkina Faso and Mali, and to refugees in Burkina Faso, which has affected program areas and the delivery of cash transfers, thereby reducing the effectiveness and transformational impact of the respective programs. | WB Outcome Indicator 1; FCDO Outcome Indicator 4 |
| Effectiveness of national social protection systems to address climate adaptation and disaster risk management | Not met | 3.5 | 3.3 | An absence of consensus at the national level due to inadequate institutional arrangements around social safety nets created leadership issues and led to a lower score for Burkina Faso social protection systems in addressing climate change and disaster risk management. | WB Outcome Indicator 2; FCDO Outcome Indicator 3 |

(continued)

| Indicator | Status | Target | Achievement | Comments | WB/FCDO indicator designation |
|---|----------|--------|-------------|--|--|
| Government-led projects supported by this trust fund whose design and/or implementation approaches are informed by recent research and evidence | Met | 10 | 10 | All countries have met their targets. Studies commissioned under the SASPP have informed a range of program design features in all countries, ensuring evidence-based design. Burkina Faso added a new program to respond to COVID-19 based on in-depth analysis of transmission channels and impact on the vulnerable and poor. | WB Output Indicator 1; FCDO Output Indicator 2.3 |
| Strategic deployments to key multilateral/regional institutions | Exceeded | 7 | 14 | Eight new staff members joined the program in the country offices and headquarters, for a total of 14 staff fully funded by the program. | WB Output Indicator 2; FCDO Output Indicator 3.1 |
| Evidence of strategic coordination between key donors and multilateral/regional institutions | Exceeded | 5 | 6 | The WB used its convening power to bring different stakeholders in countries. Specifically in FY20, Niger and Burkina Faso signed a memorandum of understanding with the WFP. | WB Output Indicator 3; FCDO Output Indicator 3.2 |

Note: WB = World Bank. ■ = not met; ■ = met; ■ = exceeded.

a. In the first phase, 71 reports and papers were completed across the six countries and regional thematic areas and reported. However, of these, only 30 are public and can be found online. Though the remaining are not publicly available, they have been shared with government counterparts officially and have been integrated into workplans and strategies.

b. World Development Indicators 2018-19 (pre-COVID-19 data).

c. In April 2020, the WFP estimated COVID-19 may increase food insecurity to reach between 13 million in a best case scenario and 15.5 million.

6 Financial reporting for FY20

Table 6.1 Status of donor contributions to June 2020

| Donor | Contribution currency | Contribution amount | | Contribution paid | | Contribution unpaid | |
|--------------|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| | | Donor currency | \$ | Donor currency | \$ | Donor currency | \$ |
| U.K. | £ | 47,000,000 | 64,341,163 | 46,000,000 | 63,046,164 | 1,000,000 | 1,295,000 |
| U.K. | £ | 600,000 | 759,356 | 600,000 | 759,356 | 0 | 0 |
| WFP | \$ | 1,350,000 | 1,350,000 | 1,350,000 | 1,350,000 | 0 | 0 |
| AFD | € | 6,000,000 | 7,026,000 | 6,000,000 | 7,026,000 | 0 | 0 |
| BMZ | € | 50,000,000 | 56,580,150 | 50,000,000 | 56,580,150 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | | | 130,056,669 | | 128,761,520 | 1,000,000 | 1,295,000 |

Note: Installments paid in currencies of contributions are valued at the exchange rates in effect at the time the funds are received and the date they are converted to U.S. dollars.

Table 6.2 SASPP financial status by type of grant—active grants, FY20

| Country/activity | Fund | Grant amount (\$) | Disbursement to date (\$) |
|--------------------------------|--|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Bank executed | | | |
| Regional mgmt & administration | ASPP Regional Coordination Management and Administration | 1,599,000 | 1,328,456 |
| Burkina Faso | ASPP Analytical Work Burkina Faso | 500,000 | 144,916 |
| Chad | Chad - ASPP ASA Phase 2 | 1,000,000 | 181,579 |
| | TA in support of the Chad Safety Nets Project (AFD) | 261,509 | 261,501 |
| | Total | 1,261,510 | 443,080 |
| Mali | Mali ASPP ASA Phase 2 | 500,000 | 120,601 |
| Mauritania | Adaptive Social Protection NLTA in Mauritania | 254,386 | 254,023 |
| | Knowledge Creation and Technical Assistance for Adaptive Social Protection in Mauritania | 250,000 | 248,669 |
| | Mauritania Adaptive Social Protection - Phase II (SASPP) | 500,000 | 114,415 |
| | Total | 1,004,386 | 617,108 |
| Niger | Niger Development of the Adaptive Social Safety Net | 500,000 | 322,748 |
| Senegal | Senegal ASA Phase 2 | 500,000 | 114,131 |
| Regional | Sahel ASP Overall Regional Program | 500,000 | 165,824 |
| | ASPP ASA Phase 2 Sub-Task: Productive Inclusion and Women's Empowerment | 500,000 | 105,757 |
| | WFP - Research on Productive Components, Livelihoods and Resilience | 1,350,000 | 957,082 |
| | Shock-Responsive Social Protection | 500,000 | 44,968 |
| | Poverty, Vulnerability, and Resilience | 500,000 | 109,782 |
| | Fragility and Forced Displacement | 500,000 | 63,372 |
| | Total | 3,850,000 | 1,446,787 |
| Total | | 9,214,895 | 4,537,825 |
| Recipient executed | | | |
| Mauritania | Mauritania Adaptive Social Protection | 7,000,000 | 4,500,000 |
| | Mauritania - AFD AF | 2,300,000 | 2,285,480 |
| Mali | Mali Safety Nets Project (Jigiséméjiri) | 2,400,000 | 1,065,548 |
| | Total | 11,700,000 | 7,851,027 |

Note: Disbursements represent the cash payment to a recipient or vendor based on a commitment by the Bank. The Bank provides oversight and supervision over implementation. Commitments are the obligations of the trust fund at the grant level to provide funds. They are recorded in full amounts in the system, pending disbursement against the allocated goods and services. The commitments also include funds allocated against recipient-executed activities. In accordance with the Administrative Agreement, the Bank shall furnish to the Donor current financial information relating to receipts, disbursements and fund balance with respect to the Contributions received via the World Bank's Development Partner Center (DPC) secure website. The Bank shall provide the donors an annual single audit reporting, within 6 months following the end of each Bank fiscal year, which starts on July 1 and ends on June 30 of each year.

Table 6.3 SASPP financial status by type of grant—closed grants, FY20

| Country/activity | Fund | Grant amount (\$) | Disbursement to date (\$) |
|--------------------------------|--|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Bank executed | | | |
| Regional mgmt & administration | Managing Social Protection Activities in the Sahel | 1,891,371 | 1,891,371 |
| Burkina Faso | Adaptive SP in the Sahel—Burkina Faso country program - supervision | 223,541 | 223,541 |
| | Adaptive SP in the Sahel—Burkina Faso country program | 1,542,995 | 1,542,995 |
| | Total | 1,766,535 | 1,766,535 |
| Chad | Chad - support to government in establishing an adaptive, efficient, and responsive national SSN | 1,396,836 | 1,396,836 |
| | Supervision of Chad Safety Nets Project | 199,954 | 199,954 |
| | Chad Social Safety Nets Assessment - Cofinancing of P151966 activities | 264,450 | 264,450 |
| | Total | 1,861,239 | 1,861,239 |
| Mali | Adaptive Social Protection for Resilience in Mali | 1,064,508 | 1,064,508 |
| Mauritania | Adaptive Social Protection for Mauritania - NLTA | 899,985 | 899,985 |
| | Adaptive Social Protection for Mauritania - Supervision | 600,222 | 600,222 |
| | Total | 1,500,208 | 1,500,208 |
| Niger | Adaptive Social Protection for Resilience in Niger | 2,646,250 | 2,646,250 |
| | Bank Supervision for Adaptive Social Safety Nets Project | 419,259 | 419,259 |
| | Total | 3,065,509 | 3,065,509 |
| Senegal | Senegal Adaptive Social Protection - Supervision | 431,288 | 431,288 |
| | Senegal Adaptive Social Protection - NLTA | 1,451,132 | 1,451,132 |
| | Total | 1,882,420 | 1,882,420 |
| Regional | Supporting Knowledge and TA for Adaptive Social Protection in the Sahel | 3,979,921 | 3,979,921 |
| | Livelihoods experiment | 531,058 | 531,058 |
| | Enhancing household resilience through CCT/WASH integrated community-led interventions in Niger | 429,206 | 429,206 |
| | Strengthening Social Protection Systems through Forecast-based-Financing in the Sahel | 448,027 | 448,027 |
| | Enhancing household resilience through CCT/WASH integrated community-led interventions in Niger | 176,830 | 176,830 |
| | Total | 5,565,042 | 5,565,042 |
| Total | | 18,596,832 | 18,596,832 |

(continued)

| Country/activity | Fund | Grant amount (\$) | Disbursement to date (\$) |
|---------------------------|---|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Recipient executed | | | |
| Burkina Faso | Adaptive Safety Net - Burkina Faso AF RE | 6,000,000 | 6,000,000 |
| Chad | Chad Safety Net Project | 5,000,000 | 5,000,000 |
| Mali | Mali Safety Net Project | 10,000,000 | 8,297,031 |
| Mauritania | Adaptive Social Protection support to Mauritania | 4,000,000 | 4,000,000 |
| Niger | Niger Adaptive Social Safety Nets Project | 8,500,000 | 8,500,000 |
| Senegal | Senegal Adaptive Social Protection - Support to Senegal | 11,050,000 | 10,998,572 |
| Total | | 44,550,000 | 42,795,603 |

Note: Disbursements represent the cash payment to a recipient or vendor based on a commitment by the Bank. The Bank provides oversight and supervision over implementation. Commitments are the obligations of the trust fund at the grant level to provide funds. They are recorded in full amounts in the system, pending disbursement against the allocated goods and services. The commitments also include funds allocated against recipient-executed activities. In accordance with the Administrative Agreement, the Bank shall furnish to the Donor current financial information relating to receipts, disbursements and fund balance with respect to the Contributions received via the World Bank's Development Partner Center (DPC) secure website. The Bank shall provide the donors an annual single audit reporting, within 6 months following the end of each Bank fiscal year, which starts on July 1 and ends on June 30 of each year.

World Bank Group social protection response to COVID-19

The World Bank Group COVID-19 shock response framework follows three stages: relief, restructuring, and resilient recovery. The first stage—relief—consists of emergency responses to counter the immediate economic repercussions of the pandemic—particularly as a result of the health impacts on households and national, regional, and international lockdown measures. The second and current stage, in which countries begin reopening, focuses on strengthening the health care system for pandemic readiness; and on restoring human capital, which has been severely affected by this crisis. The third stage pertains to longer-term recovery with a clear focus on resilience. The objective is not only to rebuild but to rebuild better to ensure countries and people are more resilient to such crises, and to ensure more sustainable and inclusive futures.

Four strategic pillars cut across the three stages (table A.1): saving lives, protecting the poor and vulnerable, ensuring sustainable business growth and job creation, and strengthening policies and institutions and investments for rebuilding better. Progress across these stages and pillars depends on the containment of the pandemic, whether through medical breakthroughs or policies and regulations. The stages are not distinctly linear or time bound. Progress may ebb and flow in response to the pandemic and its resurgence or containment.

Adaptive social protection systems in the Sahel are key to relief, restructuring, and recovery and operate across the different stages and pillars of the World Bank Group response framework. ASP systems in the Sahel were leveraged for the immediate relief following the onset of the crisis by providing emergency cash transfers to new and existing beneficiaries. While stage 1 is still ongoing in many cases, preparations for stage 2 are under way, with planning around longer-term integration of new and structural poor into social protection programs and registries—and in terms of restoring human capital through productive inclusion interventions as well as human development measures. Stage 2, learning from the first phase, is strengthening the systems so they can be more responsive and resilient to future shocks.

Table A.1 World Bank Group COVID-19 Crisis Response Framework

| Pillar | Relief stage | Restructuring stage | Resilient recovery |
|--|---|--|--|
| 1: Saving lives | Public health emergency | Restructuring health systems | Pandemic-ready health systems |
| 2: Protecting the poor and vulnerable | Social emergency | Restoring human capital | Building equity and inclusion |
| 3: Ensuring sustainable business growth and job creation | Economic emergency | Firm restructuring and debt resolution | Green business growth and job creation |
| 4: Strengthening policies, institutions, and investments for rebuilding better | Maintain line of sight to long-term goals | Policy and institutional reforms | Investments to rebuild better |

Phase 1 results framework

| Indicator name | Category | Baseline | Cumulative target value | | |
|---|------------------|----------|---|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | | Actual FY 2019 (Jul. 2018– Jun. 2019) | FY20 (Jul. 2019– Jun. 2020) | End target ^a |
| Project development objective indicators | | | | | |
| Indicator 1: Spending on social protection, including government and donor spending [FCDO Outcome Indicator 2] | % point increase | n.a. | 0.15 | 0.15 | 0.15 |
| | % | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.6 |
| Indicator 2: Capacity of countries' social protection systems to implement adaptive social protection programs [Output 1.1] | | 1.5 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 4.0 |
| Indicator 3: People benefiting from adaptive social protection programs supported by the trust fund [FCDO Outcome Indicator 1] | Total | 0 | 1,958,026 | 1,981,602 | 1,887,496 |
| | Total (f) | 0 | 980,759 | 991,547 | 940,368 |
| | Direct | 0 | 457,651 | 463,545 | 434,291 |
| | Direct (f) | 0 | 233,750 | 236,697 | 225,671 |
| | Indirect | 0 | 1,500,375 | 1,518,057 | 1,453,205 |
| Intermediate results indicators | | | | | |
| Indicator 1: Just-in-time technical assistance activities supported by the trust fund | | 0 | 38 | 47 | 32 |
| Indicator 2: Improved early warning systems and seasonal forecasts (to anticipate and prepare for climate-related and other shocks) | | 0 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| Indicator 3: Government staff trained on social protection policy, delivery and M&E through the trust fund [FCDO Output Indicator 1.5] | | 0 | 1,012 | 1,012 | 1,035 |

(continued)

| Indicator name | Category | Baseline | Cumulative target value | | |
|--|--------------|----------|---|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | | Actual FY 2019 (Jul. 2018– Jun. 2019) | FY20 (Jul. 2019– Jun. 2020) | End target ^a |
| Indicator 4: Assessments of poverty, climate change risk and other vulnerabilities commissioned by the trust fund [FCDO Output Indicator 2.1] | | 0 | 24 | 24 | 26 |
| Indicator 5: Evaluations, assessments and studies creating lessons from adaptive social protection programs supported by the trust fund [FCDO Output Indicator 2.2] | Commissioned | 0 | 71 | 60 | 90 |
| | Published | 0 | 30 | 30 ^b | 30 |
| Indicator 6: Knowledge exchange and dissemination activities supported by the trust fund [FCDO Output Indicator 2.4] | National | 0 | 51 | 53 | 53 |
| | Regional | 0 | 6 | 7 | 7 |
| Indicator 7: Programs supported by the trust fund | | 0 | 14 | 14 | 9 |
| Indicator 8: Number of households receiving cash through cash based interventions (transfers and PW) supported by the trust fund [FCDO Output Indicator 1.3] | CT | 0 | 62,855 | 62,855 | 65,000 |
| | PW | 0 | 29,456 | 35,350 | 35,000 |
| | Total (hh) | 0 | 92,311 | 98,205 | 95,000 |
| | Total (ppl) | 0 | 627,993 | 651,569 | 640,000 |
| | Total (f) | 0 | 314,830 | 326,262 | 320,000 |
| Indicator 9: People benefiting from productive measures or trained on basic skills (such as sanitary health practices and nutrition awareness programs) supported by the trust fund | | 0 | 598,921 | 598,921 | 400,484 |
| Indicator 10: Adaptation related community assets created/rehabilitated through support by the trust fund [FCDO Output 1.4] | | 0 | 394 | 394 | 500 |
| Indicator 11: Government led social protection programs that incorporate adaptation and risk reduction [FCDO Output 1.2] | | 0 | 11 | 11 | 11 |
| FCDO indicators | | | | | |
| Impact indicators | | | | | |
| Indicator 1: Percentage of children under 5 who are underweight (moderate and severe malnutrition) [FCDO Impact Indicator 1] | | 24.0 | 24.3 | 27.1 | 24.3 |

(continued)

| Indicator name | Category | Baseline | Cumulative target value | | |
|---|----------|----------|---|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | | Actual FY 2019 (Jul. 2018– Jun. 2019) | FY20 (Jul. 2019– Jun. 2020) | End target ^a |
| Indicator 2: Number of food insecure people [FCDO Impact Indicator 3] (in millions) | | 14.5 | 12.0 | 8.4 | 12.9 |
| Indicator 3: Percentage of households using negative coping strategies as a response to shocks [FCDO Impact Indicator 2] | | | | | |
| Outcome indicators | | | | | |
| Indicator 1: Extent to which planned interventions are likely to have transformational impact [FCDO Outcome Indicator 4] | | 1.8 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 4.2 |
| Indicator 2: Effectiveness of national SP systems to address CA and DRM [FCDO Outcome Indicator 3] | | 1.0 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 3.5 |
| Output indicators | | | | | |
| Indicator 1: Government-led projects supported by this Trust Fund whose design and/or implementation approaches are informed by recent research and evidence [FCDO Output Indicator 2.3] | | 0 | 9 | 10 | 10 |
| Indicator 2: Strategic deployments to key multilateral/regional institutions [FCDO Output Indicator 3.1] | | 0 | 14 | 14 | 7 |
| Indicator 3: Evidence of strategic coordination between key donors and multilateral/regional institutions [FCDO Output Indicator 3.2] | | 2 | 4 | 6 | 5 |

Note: n.a. = not applicable; CT = cash transfer; PW = public works; f = female; hh = household. Numbers provided are based on the latest available data, which vary for each country. It is important to highlight and acknowledge that the quality of these data is poor. Expenditure monitoring systems in the Sahel are weak, and one of the aims of the program is to improve these systems in order to obtain accurate expenditure data on social protection. Once these improved systems are in place, numbers may be revised. FCDO output indicators refer to indicators tracked for the United Kingdom's phase 1 contribution to the MDTF.

a. Some targets were amended in FY20 to reflect the extension of phase 1 into FY20, while in line with already achieved results.

b. This is not a reduction but rather a new way to calculate commissioned and published reports.

Definitions of score indicators

The following table provides definitions of the ratings/scores of the four ranked indicators in the results framework. Each country team decides, based on a review of the evidence, how much progress has been made toward each indicator.

| Indicator | Rating | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Outcome indicator 3: Effectiveness of national SP systems to address CA and DRM | The SP system has no clear links with CCA and DRM, and government has no plans for such links. No existing SP strategy with CCA and DRM aspects included. | The SP system has no links with CCA and DRM, but the government has initiated discussions on such links. There is not yet an SP strategy with CCA and DRM links. | The government has a clearly formulated strategy on how to create CCA and DRM links with the SP system and may have begun implementing such links. | The government has an overall strategy for ASP and a set of programs which aim to improve resilience through clear links to CCA and DRM. | The government has an overall strategy for ASP and a well-designed set of programs with links to CCA and DRM. | ASP programs support a balanced, institutionalized, well-coordinated strategy for ASP. |
| Output indicator 1.1: Capacity of country's SP system to implement ASP programs ^a | No effective elements of the core SP system are in place. | Some elements of the core SP system have been developed, but are not yet fully operational. | Some elements of the core SP system have been developed and are operational, but are not used correctly/efficiently. | Some elements of the core SP system are operational and used correctly/efficiently, but more work is needed for missing elements. | All elements of the core SP system are operational, but are not used correctly/efficiently. | All key elements of the core SP system are in place and are used correctly/effectively. |
| FCDO Outcome Indicator 4: The extent to which planned interventions are likely to have a transformational impact ^b | There is very low likelihood of planned interventions to have transformational impact. | There is some likelihood of planned interventions to have transformational impact, but the risks are high and intense support is needed to enable transformational impact. | There is some likelihood of planned interventions to have transformational impact, and the risk is high, and some support is needed by other programs to enable transformational impact. | There is some likelihood of planned interventions to have transformational impact, and the risk is moderate, but some support is still needed by other programs to enable transformational impact. | There is moderate likelihood of planned interventions to have transformational impact, and the risk is low, but support is still needed by other programs to enable transformational impact. | There is considerable likelihood of planned interventions to have transformational impact, and there is limited need from support by other programs to enable transformational impact. |
| FCDO Output Indicator 3.2: Evidence of strategic coordination between key donors and multilateral/regional institutions | No evidence of strategic coordination is yet available | Tentative evidence points to ongoing coordination efforts | A coordination framework exists but actual coordination efforts are ad-hoc and based on needs | A coordination framework exists and is implemented | | |

Note: CC = climate change; CCA = climate change adaptation; DRM = disaster risk management; SP = social protection.

a. A country system will include a set of programs and the following elements (available for certain programs or systemwide): (1) dedicated institutions and staff; (2) targeting system—criteria established, list of potential beneficiaries available; (3) management information system functioning—capable of storing potential and actual beneficiaries and generate lists for registration, payment, and follow-up; (4) existence and effectiveness of the payment system; (5) existence and effectiveness of the grievance mechanisms; and (6) existence and effectiveness of monitoring and evaluation.

b. Transformational impact refers to a life-long positive impact on household's resilience.

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