Reflecting to Improve
Looking Back on Savings Groups for Vulnerable Populations

May 22, 2018
Agenda

• Overview of three projects:
  1. Caring for Vulnerable Children, Mequanint Yalew (Plan International)
  2. Building Resilience of Vulnerable Communities in Burkina Faso, Sybil Chidiac (Grameen Foundation)
  3. FISONG Project and Women and Youth Savings for Empowerment Project, Essi Digo (Plan International)

• Question and answer

• Small group discussion & report out
Caring for Vulnerable Children Project

• 5 year (2017-2022) project in Ethiopia
• Seeks to enable a minimum of 325,000 HIV-impacted OVC to access comprehensive HIV/AIDS related and other services
• Implemented in 126 sites in four regions and two administrative cities
• Aims to help parents and caregivers to have the capacity to access services
• Targets 325,000 orphan and vulnerable Children /OVCs/ and 171,238 of their parents/caregivers.
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• Uses an ES pathway model to understand the economic vulnerability of families
• Household economic vulnerability assessment classifies HHs into 3 vulnerability categories
Matching ES Support to Household Status

Provision → Protection → Promotion

- **Destitute**: Temporary consumption and social protection
- **Struggler**: Savings and loans
- **Ready to grow**: Income and assets
Building Resilience in Burkina Faso

- 4.5 years (2014-2019) project in Burkina Faso; with an extension
- Implemented in 4 regions (Zondoma, Boulkiemde, Passore, Sanguie) with 2 local partners.
- Aims to increase the resilience of vulnerable communities in Burkina Faso through a multi-sectoral and integrated program using community-based women's savings groups as a sustainable platform for improving livelihoods and nutrition knowledge, linkages to services, and access to finance.
- Addresses the problems of inadequate agricultural, nutrition and financial knowledge and practices faced by women.
Training of members of saving groups in the conservation of natural fodder and hay

Training of groups in the triple bag storage system for cowpeas

Women receiving loans from RCPB
Gender dialogues on 2 themes:

1. Adoption of good nutritional practices
2. Securing women's economic activities

Community Agent training a group on nutrition in Dydir using the Pictorial Learning Conversations method
FISONG Project

- Location: Togo, West Africa Tchaoudjo prefecture
- Implementation: May 2014-April 2018
- Targeted groups: Vulnerable Young people

WYSE Project

- Location: Togo, West Africa Moyen Mono prefecture
- Implementation: July 2013-June 2017
- Targeted groups: Women youth
FISONG Project

• Socio-professional integration of vulnerable young people

• 722 members of SGs; 14 young people with disabilities, (about 1.9% of participants) including 3 girls
WYSE Project

• Enabled HHs to realize their right to participate in economic activities and to realize the right to health and education of their children.

• Strengthened women and youth’s economic empowerment and leadership by promoting their access to appropriate financial services.
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Group discussion

• In your groups, create a list of:

• Particularly relevant design issues when working with particular vulnerable groups.

• For each item, is it specific to a single vulnerable group or generalizable to broader populations?