



Global Forum on Adaptive Social Protection

Protecting lives and
livelihoods in times of crisis

13-15 June 2023 • Berlin



13.06 – 2023 CEST

The Realities of Scale:

Maximizing resilience outcomes through Economic Inclusion

Productive Inclusion in Niger





Productive inclusion in Niger

Presented by Hamadou SIDDO at Berlin, June 13th 2023



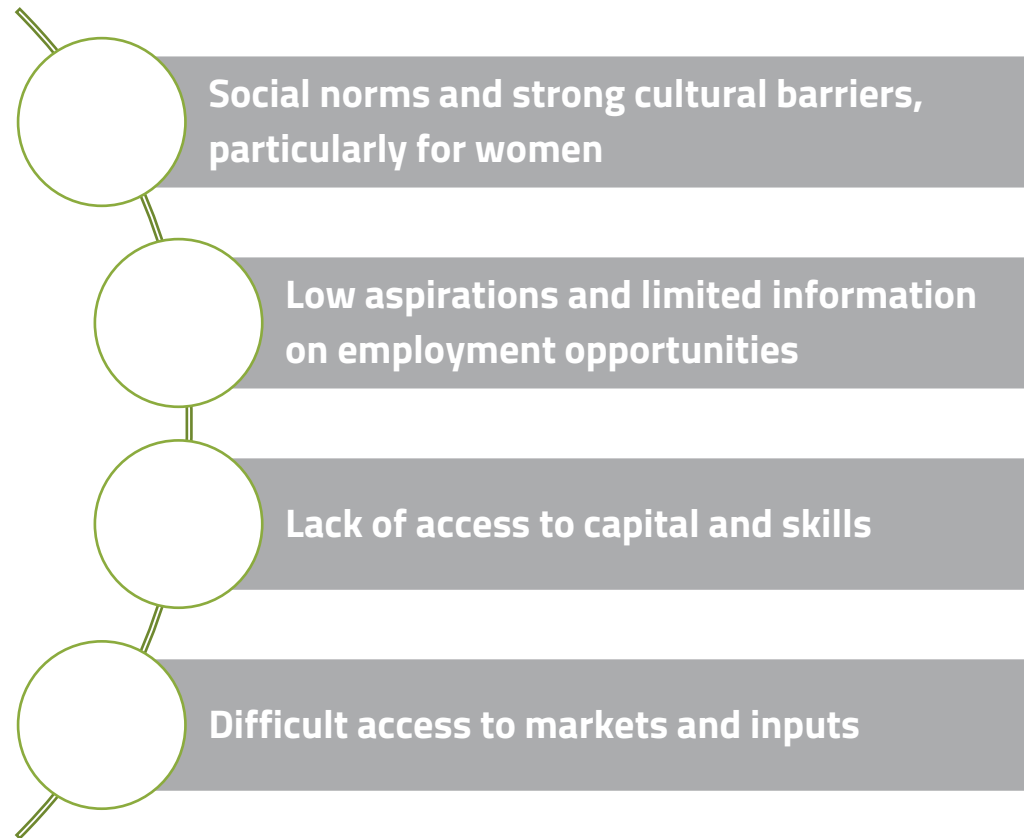
Policy background

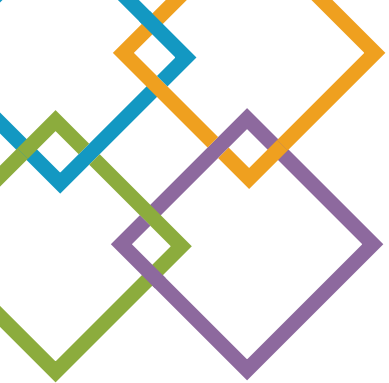
- Productive inclusion is part of Niger's National Plan for the Social and Economic Development 2022-26
- To ensure social inclusion and national solidarity (program 4, axis 1), the government aims at :
 - Providing evidence to inform the development of a productive safety nets model
 - Integrating 500,000 young people in the economic circuit for the period 2022-26



In Niger, the productive inclusion model addresses multiple constraints and structural barriers faced by extremely poor, particularly, women and youth, to self-employment and productivity.

Addressing multiple constraints





To address multiple barriers an integrated productive package has been developed

Integrated package

Awareness and sensitization campaigns

Savings and credit groups

Skills and entrepreneurship trainings

Start-up business capital

Access to market



Productive inclusion in Niger

- In the two examples presented, productive inclusion has been paramount to :
 - extreme poor graduation from safety nets
 - youth economic inclusion in rural and fragile contexts



Productive inclusion as part of Safety Nets

Productive inclusion has been embedded in the national Adaptive Safety Net Project

With the aim to help beneficiary households to engage in more productive and sustainable income-generating activities

Between 2017 and 2018, 16,700 women received the productive inclusion package in addition to regular cash transfers



Impact evaluation findings

- Boost in investments and diversification of off-farm income-generating activities
- Increased levels of total consumption and food security among beneficiaries
- Stronger social and financial support, higher trust and greater capacity for collective action
- Empowered women, with greater aspirations and decision-making power over their own resources



Persistent impact

18 months
after the
end of the
program

Increased economic activities and income were, particularly in the non-agricultural sector (from 49% to 103% compared to the control group)

Increased labor market participation of women (from 36% to 61%)

Increased consumption among beneficiaries (7-15% higher)

Consumption impacts exceeded program costs, indicating high cost-effectiveness of the intervention



Productive inclusion and Youth

- The National Program for Youth Employment and Productive Inclusion (PEJIP 2018-23) is led by the Ministry of Employment, Work and Social Protection
- The productive inclusion component targets rural youth, with a focus on insecure areas
- Rural youth receives an integrated package of cross-cutting support services
- Youth groups are supported by community coaches and local employment agents



PEJIP key figures

48,000 youth

(28,500 women) reached with skills and entrepreneurship training

1,626 groups

created and supported by coaches and local employment agents

524 local coaches

identified, trained, and engaged

40 employment agents

hired to carry out proximity supervision and support

5 035 350 000 F CFA grants

to support individual investments in income-generating activities



Achievements so far

An impact evaluation is ongoing but project monitoring shows that:

98,39% of youths

increased or diversified their economic activities after receiving the package

96% of women

were legally registered by the time of the mid-term evaluation

90% of groups

used communal employment services provided by local employment agents

6,626 non beneficiaries



Key learning

- It is possible to integrate economic inclusion measures into adaptive safety nets with high quality delivery and at a reasonable cost
- The impact of productive inclusion measures in Niger are strong and persistent over time
- The efficient delivery of an integrated productive package relies on a pool of highly capable and experienced national NGOs.
- The effective delivery of productive inclusion measures is enhanced by proximity support provided by local structures and community coaching
- Supporting the organization of Village Savings and Credit Groups has proven successful.



Ways forward

Institutional

- Build foundations for a productive inclusion model with strengthened implementation structures at local level, standardized processes, and platforms for coordination and continued learning

Programmatic

- Organize Saving and Credit Groups in networks to facilitate their connection with local markets, linkage with the private sector, and access to finance services

Operational

- Strengthen the interoperability of the unified social registry to ensure effective targeting and follow-up, program harmonization, and effective coordination between safety nets and employment sectors

Thank you!

16 June 2023



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