

# Building Resilience in Burkina Faso (BRB)

Increasing the resilience of vulnerable communities in disaster-affected areas of Burkina Faso 2014 -2019.

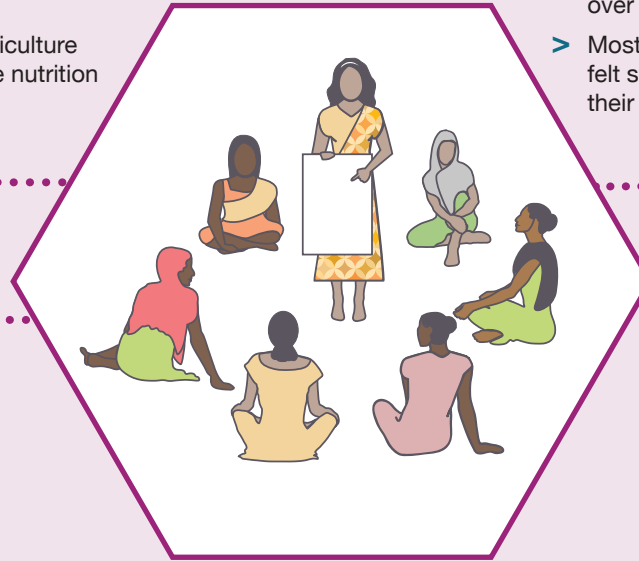
BRB builds women's capacity to withstand shocks, including drought and floods, and to improve livelihoods through engaging them in Savings Groups (SGs) that deliver an integrated package of vital agricultural, nutrition, health and financial information and services. Memory-based training is tailored to non-literate women, earning just US\$7 per week. The program also links them to agricultural finance and agricultural extension agents for farming advice and facilitates gender dialogues.

## Nutrition and Agriculture Education

- > BRB trained 240 community agents of two local partners to deliver "Agriculture as a business" and nutrition education (breastfeeding, hygiene, infant-child feeding).
- > 84% percent of SG members received the "Agriculture as a business" education and 58% received the nutrition education during the project period.

## Agricultural Finance

- > The credit union RCPB disbursed almost 6,000 group agricultural loans and 18,000 micro-business loans to SG members, resulting in over 2 million USD in investment.
- > Most used their agricultural loan for seeds followed by materials. Most felt satisfied with the loan product and felt that it sufficiently addressed their financial need.



## Agricultural Extension Support

- > For the first time, extension agents with the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) reached SG women in the project area.
- > 45 MOA extension agents were trained on gender by BRB staff members.
- > 36,016 women learned best practices for raising chickens and 44,000 chickens were vaccinated against Newcastle disease.
- > SG members reported that yields in cowpea, groundnuts, sesame doubled.

## Gender Dialogues

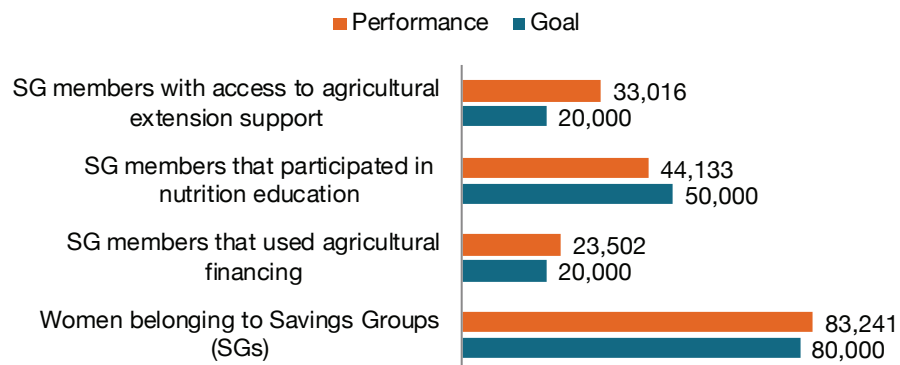
- > 87 communities in the project intervention area have received gender dialogues.
- > The dialogues are designed to encourage SG members, their spouses and community members to develop their own visions for change in gender relations regarding the adoption of nutritional practices (breastfeeding until age 2) and securing women's access to land for agricultural activities.

## Savings Groups

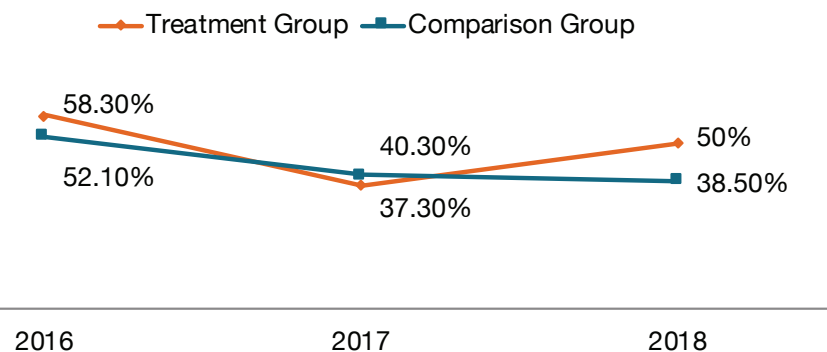
- > 3,699 saving groups engaged 83,241 women.
- > Community agents used a mobile-enhanced training tool for forming new groups.



## Program Performance



## Feels Resilient Against Shocks



Savings group members learning Zaï planting techniques.  
Photo credit: Grameen Foundation

## Program Impact: Select Research Results

	BRB Participants			Comparison Group		
	Baseline	Midline	Endline	Baseline	Midline	Endline
Has own individual mobile money account	1.8	10.4	12.0	0.9	5.1	6.8
Used an agricultural loan	13.76	19.7	38.04	15.64	12.8	19.79
Used an IGA loan	—	38.9	48.6	—	18.2	25.5
Felt anxious about loan payment	—	45.5	77.8	—	73.3	72.0
Increased harvest for the past growing season, as compared to the prior year	8.72	26.4	93.48	9.0	8.7	69.27
Use of new knowledge or planting techniques	57.89	38.5	40.35	10.53	5.9	12.78
Reason harvest did not increase: no rain	.5	97.2	7.69	14.06	99.4	24.59
Feels empowered as a woman in her HH	45.95	34.2	46.2	65.88	30.1	30.21
She and husband have shared influence on decisions regarding shocks	34.4	73.6	76.09	52.13	65.3	64.58
Mean Dietary Diversity Score (DDS)* for women (0-9)	3.6	3.3	4.0	3.6	2.6	3.5

For more information on the Building Resilience in Burkina Faso program and research results, please see: <https://grameenfoundation.org/resource/building-resilience-burkina-faso-impact-study-endline-results>. \*DDS: 0 indicates consumption of no food groups; 9 indicates consumption of 9 different foods