



# Partnership for Economic Inclusion Impact Collaborative

## Technical Workshop

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# Knowledge gaps

Effectiveness at scale implementing a program at scale is different and might have different results from those of a pilot due to:

1. Appropriate statistical inference: did the good results reflect a “lucky draw”, is there anything unusual about the results?
2. Properties of the population: are the characteristics of participants the same?
3. Properties of the situation/region context/supervision
4. Nature and extent of spillovers on the local economy and general equilibrium effects

# Knowledge gaps

- What is the marginal contribution of each add-on intervention? What elements of economic inclusion package are essential (cash benchmarking)? How do alternative delivery modalities that enhance scalability affect program impact and cost-effectiveness?
  - Low-cost vs. high-cost; low-intensity vs. high-intensity; digital vs. face-to-face; individual vs. group-based
- How do impacts vary over time? Are they sustained in the short to long-term? How does it affect cost-benefit analysis? What are the spillovers and general eq. effects?
- What is the cost-effectiveness of economic inclusion programs across population groups? What modifications in bundle design and delivery are necessary to increase cost-effectiveness for different sub-groups?
- How does impact depend on local economic conditions?

# Objective

**1) Country:** Ethiopia, **Goal:** Estimate the impact of grants alone + Scalability  
Public works employment for **three years**.

*Livelihood services component in Year 2,*

- public works beneficiaries start bi-monthly life skills & financial literacy (LSFL) and coaching/mentoring
- they also receive business skills and business plan training for 10 days.
- A couple of months after completion of the training, they get a first disbursement of livelihood grants to their bank account, and a second disbursement four months later.

# Project innovations and scale

The UPSNJP livelihoods services component has been revamped based on the UPSNP experience:

- LSFL & coaching/mentoring:
  - Shift from 5-day classroom training to monthly sessions (21 months, 2 sessions/month)
  - Now a focus on business start-up pain points.
- Business skills and business plan training:
  - New curriculum
  - 10 days (split into two parts of 5 days each with one month gap between)
- Increase in grant amount

## **RQ: Impact and alternatives**

- LSFL and coaching/mentoring
- Grant + LSFL and coaching/mentoring
- Grant + LSFL and coaching/mentoring + business skills and business plan training

# Key Outcomes

Outcome Domain	Level	Source
Income (levels and sources, including microenterprise profits and survivorship/expansion)	household, individual	???
Savings	household, individual	???
Non-income wellbeing (mental health, subjective measures)	individual	???

Can we do more tracking and changing in real time?

# Undressed questions

- What about **grants only** or **training only**? What elements are better replaced by cash (cash benchmarking)? What elements of the package are essential?
- **Nature** of the training/mentoring? E.g. digital vs. face-to-face; individual vs. group-based
- What is the cost-effectiveness of economic inclusion programs **across population groups**? What modifications in bundle design and delivery?
- How do impacts vary **over time**? Are they **sustained** in the short to long-term? What is the right sequence?
- What is the nature and extent of **spillovers** on the local economy and **general equilibrium** effects?
- What are the **characteristics of local labor markets** that are key?

# Objective

**Country:** Cameroon, youth, women and internally displaced. **Goal:** Helps develop income generating activities, increase productivity, strengthen resilience?

- Is there a differential **impact of receiving the transfer in 1 or 2 installments** on participation in coaching activities, savings, and investment in income generating activity? How effective is an **individual digital savings modality** with nudges in an urban context?
- How **heterogeneous is coach quality** (coach VA)? How does it affect program impact? Are there predictors of effective coaches? (How to best use this information when designing phase 2?)
- What is the **most cost-effective coaching modality**? Short and light-touch or long and high-touch?
- What is the **value added of market linkage** interventions such as mentorships and apprenticeships?
- Are impacts **higher for beneficiaries assigned to coaches identified as more effective** (or possessing characteristics associated with effectiveness) during phase 1? What are the implications for scalability?



# Key Outcomes

Outcome Domain	Level	Source
Savings and Investment in IGA	Individual	VSLA Savings Stock, E-wallet, Phone Surveys, Surveys
Employment outcomes and independent activities	Individual	Phone Surveys, Surveys
Welfare Indicators	individual	Phone Surveys, Surveys

Are phone surveys adequate? Which welfare indicators? Other income effects (levels and sources, including microenterprise profits and survivorship/expansion)? Is individual the right level?

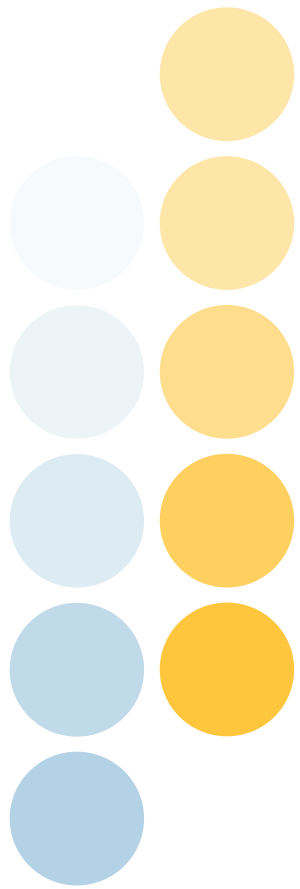
# Undressed questions

- What is the nature and extent of **spillovers** on the local economy and **general equilibrium** effects? Key for magnitude of effects on youth unemployment.
- What are the **characteristics of local labor markets** that are key?
- What are the **key adaptations** for women and locally displaced? How to identify the latter?
- Why **sensitization to saving**? Training, coaching and access to finance?
- **Coaching** on what? Coaching different from mentoring? **Too complex**? Group coaching? What is light coaching? Using coaches to collect data?
- What are the **linkages to market**? Facilitating wage employment different self-employment from engaging with private sector to create wage employment. How to create new value chains? Link to cooperatives? Community platforms? Do they exist? Apprenticeships?
- Overall: What if the key constraint is **lack of employment opportunities/demand**, not human and financial constraints?

Both

# Are we addressing the key knowledge gaps? Can we extrapolate to other contexts?

- Effective at **scale**
- “Scalable” delivery **modalities**? How to **bundle** Interventions? What is the **minimum package** that works and the magnitude of the effects?
- **Targeting/heterogeneity/needed adaptations** (across people and places beyond urban/rural divide) and **dynamics over time**
- **External validity** across settings
- **Mechanisms**
- Will we know the **value of each dollar spent** if the program leads to important behavior changes by non beneficiaries and has multiplier effects?



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# Thank you!

