Pro-WEAI Baseline Results from the initiative *Building the Resilience of Vulnerable Communities in Burkina Faso (BRB)*

A project under Gender, Agriculture, and Assets Program Phase Two (GAAP2):
Developing Project-Level Indicators
to Measure Women's Empowerment

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GRAMEEN FOUNDATION

Grameen Foundation is a global nonprofit organization that helps the world's poorest people achieve their full potential by providing access to essential financial services and information on health and agriculture that can transform their lives. In 2016, Grameen Foundation and the global non-profit Freedom from Hunger decided to join forces under the banner of Grameen Foundation. The integration of the two organizations brings together Grameen Foundation's expertise in digital innovation to end poverty and Freedom from Hunger's focus on providing the world's poorest women with self-help tools to reduce hunger and poverty. Grameen Foundation is headquartered in Washington, D.C., with offices in the U.S., Asia, Africa, and Latin America. For more information, please visit www.grameenfoundation.org or follow us on Twitter: @GrameenFdn.

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INTRODUCTION

In early 2016, Freedom from Hunger launched work on a 5-year grant received from the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) as part of the Gender, Agriculture and Assets Project, Phase Two (GAAP2). Building on GAAP 1, GAAP2 works with several grantees to adapt and validate a measure of women's empowerment for use by agricultural development agencies and project implementers to diagnose key areas of disempowerment, design appropriate strategies to address deficiencies, and monitor projects related to women's empowerment. The new empowerment measure will be based on the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI)[4] developed by IFPRI, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI), but will be adapted for project use, thus creating a project-level, or pro-WEAI.

Grant funds received by Freedom from Hunger[5] from IFPRI support quantitative and qualitative research activities to pilot and validate the pro-WEAI. The survey is administered with female participants of the impact study from the Freedom from Hunger accompanying project, *Building the Resilience of Vulnerable Communities in Burkina Faso (BRB)*, as well as their husbands or male heads of household. The pro-WEAI builds upon the five domains of agriculture in the WEAI - production, resources, income, community leadership, and time use – and tests additional domains such as physical mobility, intra-household relationships, autonomy in decision-making, self-efficacy, life satisfaction,[6] attitudes about domestic violence, and nutrition. Results will shed light on both the components of empowerment in the rural Burkina context as well as changes in empowerment associated with the BRB project.

This paper provides a summary of baseline data from the pro-WEAI collected under the BRB project. It includes information on the following: background of the BRB project; descriptions of the methods; results from the pro-WEAI baseline, and a sample of results from the BRB impact study baseline (provided in the Annex)[7].

Burkina Faso

Burkina Faso is one of the poorest countries in Africa, with 44.5 percent of the population living on less than $1.90 (PPP) per day and 63.8 percent living in severe multidimensional poverty (which captures non-income dimensions of poverty, including education, health, and living standards).[i] Climate-related hazards such as drought and flooding in northern and central Burkina Faso exacerbate hunger and sickness through various interrelated pathways that involve livelihoods, food security, maternal and child care, water, sanitation, and health. Climate change is projected to continue to decrease

[4] WEAI Resource Center. IFPRI. http://www.ifpri.org/topic/weai-resource-center

[5] Please note that as of October 2016, Freedom from Hunger combined forces with the Grameen Foundation (GFUSA), and became a supporting organization of GFUSA. The BRB Project remains under Freedom from Hunger although managed by staff of both organizations.

[6] To conserve time, Freedom from Hunger did not implement the self-efficacy scale or life satisfaction modules in this assessment.

[7] Project baseline results are found in: Gash, Megan. (2017). *"Leveraging Services to Create New Pathways: Impact Study Baseline Results from the Initiative Building Resilience in Burkina Faso."* Washington, DC: Grameen Foundation. https://grameenfoundation.org/resource/leveraging-services-create-new-pathways

food availability and threaten agricultural livelihoods of rural Burkinabé, making entire communities vulnerable to external shocks. The lack of livelihood diversity, access to adequate health, social, and financial resources, in combination with heavy dependence on rain-fed agriculture, creates several barriers to building the resilience of these populations.

A gender index known as the Social Institutions Gender Index (SIGI) assesses countries' discriminatory social norms across five sub-indices: discriminatory family code, restricted physical integrity, son bias, restricted resources and assets, and restricted civil liberties.[ii] The SIGI score for Burkina is high[iii], which indicates that discriminatory practices towards women in Burkina Faso are prevalent, despite government commitment and effort to develop policies and frameworks that reduce discrimination. Women's physical integrity is very restricted[iv]: studies conducted under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) indicate that Burkina Faso[v] has no law pertaining to domestic violence, that very few women will seek justice for violence against them, and that high percentages of the population believe there are justifications for spousal abuse.[vi] These negative gender social norms play out not only in government support structures but also in intra-household social and economic dynamics. Women often face restricted mobility, low decision-making power, and fear of their husbands.[vii]

Women generally have lower productivity than men due to decisions that prioritize plots and crops managed by the head-of-household, typically their husbands.[viii] These findings in Burkina Faso are consistent with research conducted across Sub-Saharan Africa where women, while making up half the agricultural workforce, face low land ownership, access to credit and productive farm inputs, support from extension services, and access to markets.[ix] The same aforementioned research recommended that designing agricultural extension specifically for women, increasing women's access to land, land rights, and inputs, as well as improving access to child-care support could help remove barriers to women's productivity. While agricultural productivity is only one means of achieving resilience, it is essential for improving food production and increasing income, particularly in rural areas.[x] Moreover, when linked with the health and nutrition sectors, agricultural projects could improve health security as well as food security and resilience.[xi]

Project background: Building Resilience in Burkina Faso

Freedom from Hunger is taking a multi-sectoral approach to improving household resilience and food security with the three-year initiative *Building the Resilience of Vulnerable Communities in Burkina Faso* (BRB—Building Resilience in Burkina Faso in short), funded by the Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies. Working through two local partners, Office de Développement des Eglises Evangéliques (ODE) and the Association Solidarité et Entraide Mutuelle au Sahel (SEMUS), the approach features the innovative use of community-based women's savings groups (SGs) as a platform for providing an integrated package of agricultural, nutrition, financial services, and women's empowerment programming to help thousands of SG members overcome many of the geographic, cultural, social, and economic constraints that hamper their

resiliency in the face of shocks and disasters. The BRB project aims to reach 80,000 women through women's savings groups in the rural areas of Central-Western Burkina Faso (in the provinces of Passoré, Zondoma, Boulkiemdé, and Sanguié) with the following support activities:

- **Agriculture extension agent training**: the BRB team works directly with local agricultural extension agents to directly support women farmers in: 1) growing, conserving, and marketing crops such as cowpeas and sesame and 2) livestock raising, feeding, and care.
- **Education**: community agents trained by ODE and SEMUS facilitate pictorial learning conversations on:
    - **"Agriculture as a business" education**, which includes topics such as farm planning, marketing, cost/revenue calculations, and risk management;
    - **Nutrition education**, which includes topics such as healthy diets, strategies for feeding the household during lean seasons, integrating key crops into the diet, and saving for health expenses.
- **Agriculture finance**: agriculture loans and income-generating activity/livestock loans in addition to group savings accounts accessed through a group mobile wallet.
- **Gender dialogues**: women's empowerment discussions encourage savings group members, their spouses, and their communities to develop their own visions for change in gender relations with particular emphasis on 1) securing women's access to agricultural land and equipment in pertinent time periods of the year and 2) identifying strategies the household can use for lean seasons of the year to ensure adequate and quality dietary consumption.
- **Formation of new savings groups**: the practice of savings groups is embedded in long-held local traditions of solidarity and is known to strengthen the capacity of women to positively impact family income by increasing savings, smoothing cash flow and enhancing and/or diversifying livelihood activities.[xii] Working together toward the same financial goal as part of a group that meets regularly creates strong bonds; social capital is built among members in addition to financial capabilities contributing to women's empowerment. The BRB project therefore continues to support existing savings groups as well as to grow the network of new savings groups.

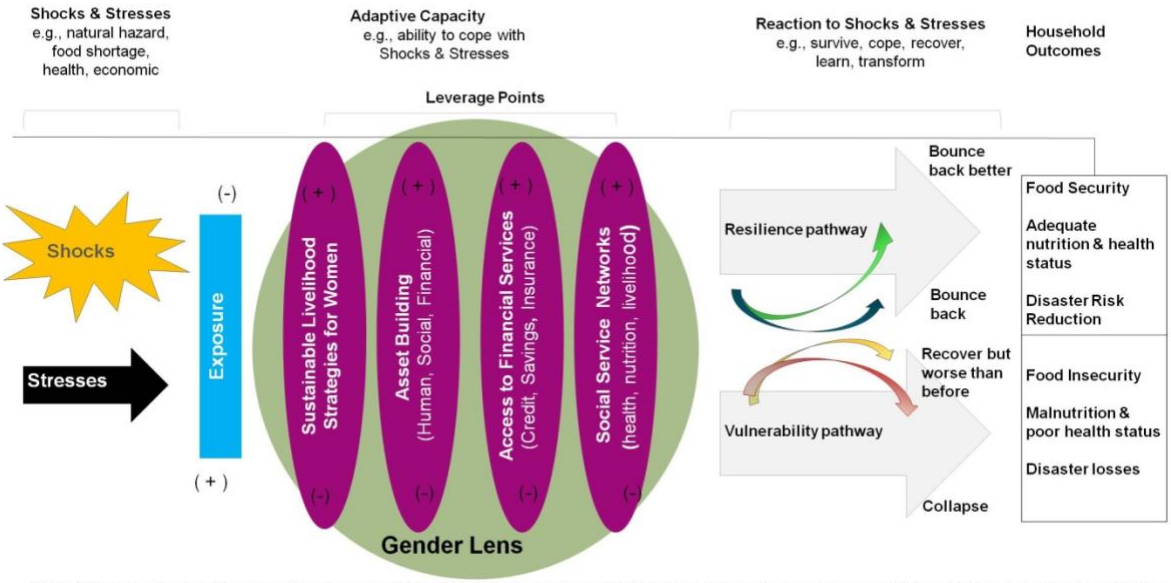
Building Resilience in Burkina Faso Theories of Change

The BRB project utilizes several theories of change to articulate high level alignment with similar projects as well as those that direct project objectives and outcomes. In 2014, Freedom from Hunger adapted a resilience framework that TANGO International (www.tangointernational.com) had created, which itself was built on previous disaster and livelihood frameworks (see bottom notation in Figure 1 for reference). The

framework focuses on adaptive capacity or "the ability to learn from experience and adjust responses to changing external conditions, yet continue operating."[xiii]

In much of the resilience literature, the concept of resilience is examined *as a capacity* with which to respond to shocks. There are three types of resilience capacities to consider: absorptive, adaptive, and transformative.[xiv] Adaptive capacity is where the services provided in the BRB project fall best—in that access to financial services through women's savings groups is a leverage point for accessing livelihood, nutrition, and other support services and building assets and social capital. Access to and use of these services become the mechanism through which an individual or household can make incremental changes in the response to a current shock or in anticipation of a future shock and could help lead a household down a path of resiliency instead of one of vulnerability. Ultimately, a resilient path can lead to better food security, adequate nutrition, improved health status, and disaster risk-reduction for a household. This framework served as the basis for the design of the BRB project. Freedom from Hunger added the "gender lens" (described below) to the adaptive capacities to ensure the opportunities and barriers faced by women specifically were included in the design and analysis of resilience.

Figure 1. Resilience Framework

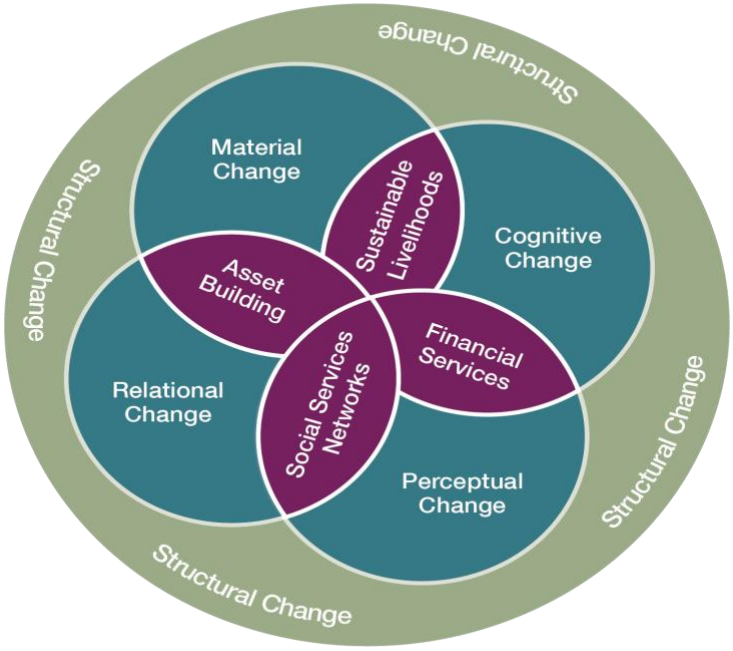


TANGO 2012. Adapted from DFID Disaster Resilience Framework (2011) , TANGO Livelihoods Framework (2007), DFID Sustainable Livelihoods Framework (1999) and CARE Household Livelihood Security Framework (2002)

The addition of the gender lens recognizes that households and individuals within households do not necessarily have equal access to services nor do they utilize them equally due to social norms. Women, as articulated above, are known to have less access to credit for agricultural investment and information, face restrictions on mobility, lack confidence and self-esteem, in addition to other barriers. For this reason, Freedom

from Hunger adapted a gender framework articulated by Women's World Banking[xv] by adding the category of structural change, which acknowledges the importance of not only the internal change a person experiences but also the enabling environment that often drives or hampers these changes such as government policies, support organizations, agents, etc. Thus, in Figure 2, the adaptive capacities articulated in Figure 1 are layered with five aspects of empowerment: *material*, *cognitive*, *relational, perceptual, and structural.*

Figure 2: Gender and Adaptive Capacities



The BRB project seeks to influence:

- **Material change**: improved agricultural assets and production and improved access to agricultural business training, leading to increased revenues and income; improved access to and use of credit, savings, insurance, and remittance services offered through financial service providers; improved group management of financial services; and improved food security.
- **Relational change**: improved decision making and bargaining power in the household regarding use of agricultural services, agricultural assets, financial services, and health and nutrition services; improved mobility with respect to agricultural activities; increased support from group members in agricultural production and business; improved social capital and leadership roles within communities; improved gender equity in household use of financial services and shared workload.
- **Cognitive change**: improved business, agricultural, and nutrition knowledge and skills; improved use of creativity to identify business opportunities and working

memory to adapt businesses in changing climates; improved confidence in and ability to make investments, plan for saving and growing assets; improved awareness of agricultural services and available resources.

- **Perceptual change**: women have a clearer vision and goals for the direction of their businesses/livelihoods; improved self-perception of resilience; confidence in ability to meet future expenses and needs; improved self-confidence overall.
- **Structural change**: agricultural extension agents and their supporting organizations are knowledgeable of their own biases and are sensitive to the needs of both male and female farmers; financial institutions design financial services that target the needs of women and men farmers; supporting organizations understand social norm dynamics and how these can influence people's use of their services and seek to draw communities' attention to and change negative norms that impede progress.

Freedom from Hunger's long-standing work in Burkina Faso has contributed to its understanding of prevailing social and gender norms. Burkinabé women play a significant role in the household economy but are expected to prioritize family over income-generating activities. They access land only through husbands, as women are prevented from directly owning land, cannot grow significant crops such as sorghum and millet, nor access livestock markets, and must obtain spousal permission to leave their household compound. The BRB project aims to influence some of these norms while working within the context of others.

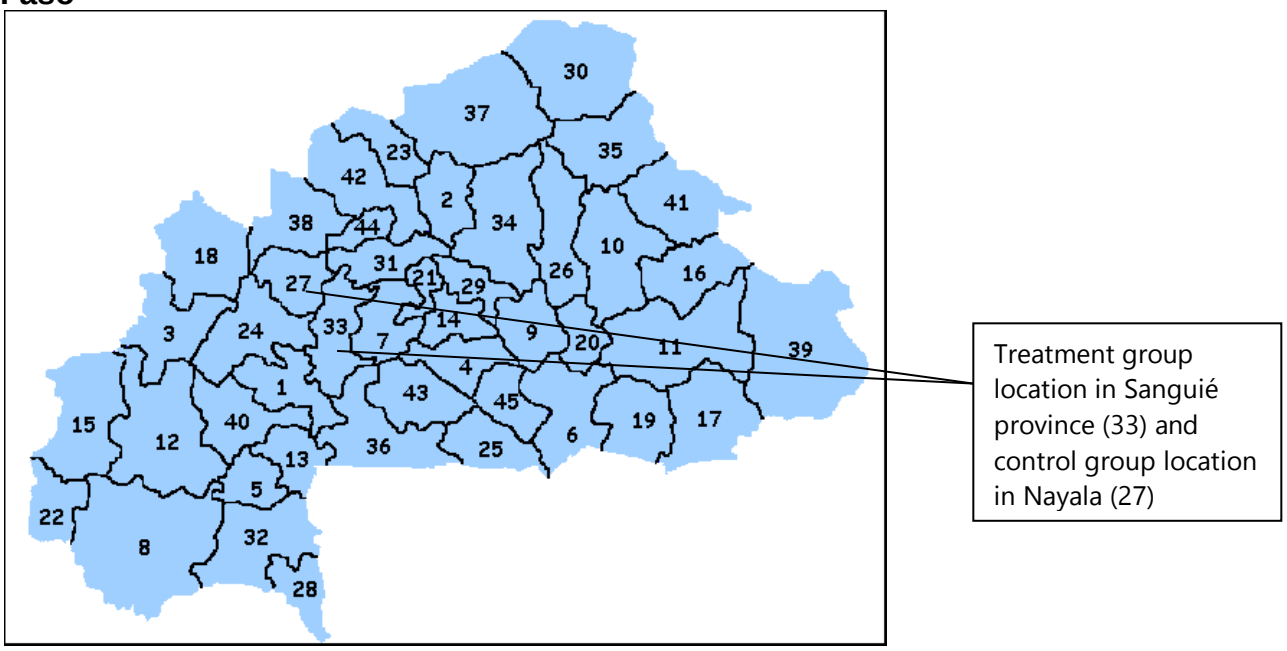
Additional information on the impact study, and how the pro-WEAI has been applied in conjunction with this study, is described in the following Methods section.

METHODS

Research Partners

Freedom from Hunger partner ODE participated in this impact research. The pro-WEAI assessment built off the sample frame of the original baseline impact survey and included members from ODE's savings groups (SGs) who live in Central-Western Burkina Faso. The treatment group was selected from women participating in SGs in the Godyr and Didyr communes in the Sanguié provice, and the control group was selected from women participating in SGs in the Yé and Gossina communes of the Nayala province. A map of these provinces is provided in Figure 3.

Figure 3. Location of the Impact Study: Sanguié and Nayala Provinces, Burkina Faso[8]



Freedom from Hunger staff oversaw the study and survey designs, survey implementation and data analysis. ODE identified treatment and control villages from which to select the participants, and their staff closely coordinated with both Freedom from Hunger and research firm staff throughout the data collection. Freedom from Hunger hired the local Burkinabe research firm Lessokon Sarl to pilot-test the survey, collect the data, and enter the data. Lessokon worked closely with ODE headquarters, field staff and Freedom from Hunger staff to sample the villages and randomly select respondents. Dr. Benjamin Crookston, assistant professor at Brigham Young University, created the study design and sampling framework, and conducted the initial data analysis. Caitlin Kieran, consultant, contributed to some additional analysis and to the development of this final report.

[8] "Provinces of Burkina Faso." *Wikipedia*. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Provinces_of_Burkina_Faso. (Accessed December 9, 2016).

Study Design

As mentioned earlier, the collection of pro-WEAI data rests upon the BRB impact study design. The study consists of a pre- and post-test quasi-experimental design with treatment groups in the program area and control groups in a non-program area. The impact study design compares women in SGs which received the additional services (treatment; these have been outlined in the Introduction) vs. women in comparable SGs that did not receive additional services by the BRB project (control), making the key question of the study to understand the impact of the additional services, rather than the entire combination of services vs. no services. This design was selected in order to add to the literature on the SGs plus additional development services (sometimes known as SG+ programming). With much of the existing literature documenting the impact of SGs as a standalone project, little exists on the impact of SG+ programming, although there is much innovation in the area.

Since some of the program components were new for ODE to implement, Freedom from Hunger and ODE staff selected a "pilot" area to first test the project components. After the operational aspects of the components were solidified, the components were then rolled out to other geographic areas of the project. This pilot area serves as the basis for the selection of 20 treatment villages. The corresponding 20 control villages were selected based on the following criteria: 1) presence of ODE-formed SGs that were not receiving the BRB services; 2) proximity to the treatment villages; and 3) likeness to the treatment villages in terms of livelihoods and economic prosperity.

This study used **propensity score matching (PSM) to select comparable control and intervention participants for endline comparisons**. PSM will also be used to examine changes over time. A community questionnaire was conducted with the 40 participating villages before the pro-WEAI baseline survey was administered. PSM will use indicators from both community and individual surveys to establish matching criteria.

Sample

The sample for the pro-WEAI baseline builds on the BRB impact study; therefore, the sample size for the BRB study is described first followed by the sampling frame for the pro-WEAI.

For the BRB impact study, power calculations based on expected levels of changes in a few key indicators determined that 400 participants, split evenly between treatment and control, would be adequate to detect modest statistical differences between groups. Since the program is delivered at the village-level, the design aimed for a minimum of 40 villages overall to allow for clustering at the village level and to account for intra-cluster correlation. To leave room for potential study attrition, the sample size was

increased by 10 percent to 440; 220 for treatment and 220 for control. The goal was to interview approximately 11 households per village. Ultimately 218 women were interviewed as part of the treatment group and 211 for the control group, for 429 total.

To select participants for the impact study, ODE provided a list of all the SGs in each of the 40 villages selected, with the number of women per group (individual names of women were not available). A randomly-generated list of 11 numbers (representing women) per village dictated which groups to select and which women to ask for participation (after women were randomly assigned numbers at the initial meetings). Each village designated three alternates. Surveyor teams traveled separately to treatment and control groups to finalize selection of women and conduct baseline impact study interviews. Surveys lasted for approximately 2 hours and all were conducted in March 2016. The interviews included asking participants and their husbands if they would participate in a second interview 2 months later (the pro-WEAI).

For the pro-WEAI data collection, the inclusion of husbands or male household members increased the desired sample to 880 participants. Resource constraints, however, lead to decreasing the **pro-WEAI sample to 190 households for each treatment and control, or 380 households in total**. With one woman and one man interviewed per household, the total BRB pro-WEAI sample includes 768 participants. Instead of interviewing 11 households per village, each village randomly dropped 1 household, and 16 villages randomly dropped 2 households to drop 28 households total. Annex 2 provides a table of participating villages, with the number of households and participants interviewed per village.

The pro-WEAI participants were drawn from the same households who participated in the impact study. Two survey teams of 4 enumerators and 1 supervisor each returned to the remaining 192 treatment and 192 control households that participated in the impact study to conduct interviews with both the women (BRB members, one woman per household was interviewed) and their husbands or main male household member. Political campaigns, funerals, and difficulty scheduling interviews with head of households caused some delays. Interviews initiated on May 5th and continued until May 21, 2016.

Survey Version

The IFPRI team released the first draft of the pro-WEAI to GAAP2 participating organizations in early April 2016. Planning for data collection to occur in May, a month with few festivals and before the summer rains begin when women are busy in the fields planting early crops, FFH staff reviewed the April 12th version of the survey and sent it for French translation. **Updates to the pro-WEAI up to the April 22nd version were incorporated into the French version shared with the research firm**. The survey was piloted in from April 25 to 27, 2016 in 5 villages across the villages of Yé and Semaga.

Survey piloting showed that interviews took a considerable amount of time. To conserve time, and resources, two optional sections were dropped (G8B Self-Efficacy Scale and G8C Life Satisfaction), as well as some optional questions in the household roster. See Table 1 for a complete list of sections included. Cutting these sections saved approximately 15 minutes per interview. As a gesture to compensate for the loss of time of the study participants, each participating household received a gift of three small bags of pasta (macaroni). Community workers and other stakeholders in the village (pastors, village development advisors, village chiefs, etc.) who helped facilitate the field work also received four bags of macaroni each. Table 2 summarizes the time for both women and men to complete the survey.

Table 1: Survey Sections Included from April 22nd Version of Pro-WEAI

Module Number	Module Title	Included? Y/N
-	Introduction and Consent	Y
C	Household Roster	Y; shortened to C01-C09
G1	Individual Identification	Y
G2	Role in Household Decision-Making around Production and Income	Y
G3(A)	Access to Productive Capital	Y
G3(B)	Access to Financial Services	Y
G4	Time Allocation	Y
G5	Group Membership	Y
G6	Physical Mobility	Y
G7	Intra-household Relationships	Y
G8(A)	Autonomy in Decision-Making	Y
G8(B)	New General Self-Efficacy Scale	N
G8(C)	Life Satisfaction	N
G9	Attitudes about Domestic Violence	Y
X	Nutrition and Health	Y

Table 2: Time for Females and Males to Complete Survey (HH:MM)

	Minimum Time	Maximum Time	Average with the HH Roster	Without HH Roster
Women	1:52	2:30	2:04	1:30
Men	0:55	1:56	1:24	1:00

Survey Feedback from Enumerators

The following list summarizes enumerator feedback from the experience of conducting the pro-WEAI interviews. Both the research firm supervisors and FFH staff gathered feedback during a field visit in early May and this feedback was shared directly with IFPRI staff and/or on Slack.

1) Remembering **ages** of both their children and themselves proved challenging.
2) Many women did not know the **household roster** details of everyone in a large family, especially since some households have 5-6 wives, and with heads of households difficult to locate.

3) As expected, **the Time Allocation section (G4)** proved to be quite time consuming and the participants found the questions difficult to understand. Most of the women are illiterate and they do not keep track of time; they eat when food is ready, not at 1pm. Some men also became annoyed with the questions. It took some time for the enumerators to explain what they needed. Men also found it difficult to describe activities in detail, and some even became embarrassed to share what they were doing all day (E.g., "Do I have to tell you I'm talking to my wife?"). Enumerators felt that that the section clearly showed that women work more.
4) **Module 8A, Autonomy in Decision-Making,** was the longest, hardest, and "trickiest." The enumerators struggled with it and some did not fully understand it. They said that respondents would not understand questions from the first two stories because they are similar (such as A1 and A2), but they understood the third and fourth stories better (A3 and A4). By the time they got to sections C and D, though, they understood. It is likely that the story sections and questions were not randomized because the enumerators struggled with them.
5) Some participants asked the same clarifying question about **Module G9, Attitudes about Domestic Violence.** For example, participants were not clear about the frequency of times a man was justified in hitting his wife, was it just once or hitting her multiple times? It was a sensitive issue, naturally, and some women took the questions personally. Enumerators tried to remind the participants that the questions were not directly about them. Sometimes what the husband said was contrary to what the woman said. The questions caused conversation amongst the enumerators; with one remarking in reference to Situation D, "A woman never refuses sex with her husband."
6) Many enumerators consider the **Nutrition section (X)** to be too long. They thought it contained many of the same questions, and that it was odd to ask about all the food separately. Some respondents were embarrassed by birth control questions. Participants were also tired by this time and were not taking the questions as seriously.
7) In terms of the **survey overall,** enumerators said that the questions were exact, not open-ended, which made it easy to understand.
8) The **enumerators thought the following was most important in terms of empowerment**: 1) behavior change of men; 2) Module G2 on production - if they have activities, then women are more valued and considered more useful; 2) Module G3 on access to financial services, specifically credit; 3) Illiteracy, since "these women need to know how to read;" 4) Module G4 on time allocation – time allocated to production should be higher, and less for household chores, and women should have more time to garden.
9) One female participant **said the survey was good because it made her think of things that were important,** like knowing the age of her children. She said she liked what it talked about, and learned from the survey. She didn't think that these issues were important before, and now she was reminded it is important. She thought that agricultural production was important for women's empowerment.

Data Entry

Data entry began at the time of collection of field data. Surveys were sent in batches to the research firm's main office in Ouagadougou to be entered. Staff first entered the data into SPHINX, then the data was later converted into SPSS before sending to FFH. Data quality checks occurred at both the supervisor and Head of Mission levels. The firm found the 700 variables challenging to manage and time consuming to clean.

PRO-WEAI BASELINE RESULTS

Next we present results from the pro-WEAI sample of 380 women and 380 men from 190 households. We start by displaying demographic characteristics of the sample, followed by information on the five domains of agriculture in the WEAI - production, resources, income, community leadership, and time use – as well as physical mobility, intra-household relationships, autonomy in decision-making, attitudes about domestic violence, and nutrition. Finally, we estimate the Abbreviated WEAI (A-WEAI) for this sample and discuss its strengths and weaknesses for measuring women's empowerment in agriculture in the context of this project.

Demographics

Table 3 suggests that female respondents in the sample are younger, on average, than the male respondents, reflecting that men generally marry younger women. Thirty (30) percent of women and 26 percent of men are in a monogamous marriage, while the remainder are in polygynous unions. Approximately 8 percent of women respondents are widowed and 87 percent of women respondents are the spouse of the household head. In order to measure gender parity within households, the sample only includes households with at least one adult male and female. By construction, all of the households in the sample have a male who is considered the household head. A large proportion of the sample is illiterate, never attended school, and did not complete primary school, although men are more literate and more likely to have completed primary school than women. The majority of respondents were interviewed without any other household members present.

Table 3: Key Demographics from pro-WEAI Baseline

Variable	Women (n=380)	Men (n=380)
Average age	40.9 years	52.9 years
In a monogamous marriage	30%	26%
Polygynous marriage, 1st wife	34%	--
Polygynous marriage, 2nd or 3rd wife	27%	--
Widowed	8%	0%
Household head	0%	100%
Spouse of household head	87%	0%
Illiterate[9]	84%	76%
Ever attended school[10]	18%	20%
Completed primary school	10%	16%
Interviewed alone	95%	90%

Domains of Empowerment

[9] Can neither read nor write
[10] This includes those currently in school and those who already attended school

Table 4 displays pro-WEAI indicators measuring women's empowerment within the context of the initiative on Building the Resilience of Vulnerable Communities in Burkina Faso. These indicators are currently under consideration for measuring women's empowerment in GAAP2, but this is subject to change in the final version of the instrument.[11] In order to develop this draft list of indicators, the GAAP2 team started with the indicators of A-WEAI. During the GAAP2 inception workshop, the projects and the GAAP2 team generated a list of areas of empowerment that may be important at the project level that were not measured in A-WEAI. The GAAP2 team then developed survey modules to measure these areas of empowerment and drafted indicators from those modules. Over the past year, the GAAP2 team has been using the baseline data from several projects to assess these draft indicators and thresholds.

The results show a higher proportion of men than women achieve adequacy for 12 of the 16 indicators presented in Table 4. The indicators for which women have a higher headcount ratio than do men include access to and decisions on credit, control over use of non-agricultural income, group membership, and ability to visit important locations. This may be due, in part, to the prevalence of women's savings groups in the sample, which directly affects women's group membership and mobility (women must travel to savings group meetings). These groups also aim to improve women's access to credit and control over income.

Table 4: Pro-WEAI Candidate Indicators

Indicator	Threshold	Adequacy	Headcount ratio	
			Women (n=380)	Men (n=380)
Input in productive decisions	Makes the decision, has input in decisions, or feels could make decision if wanted to about at least TWO agricultural activities	Solely or jointly At least some input At least a medium extent	91.6	98.7
Access to information	Able to access information for at least ONE agricultural activity	At least a medium extent	87.9	97.6
Autonomy in production	Autonomy in at least ONE agricultural activity	Relative Autonomy Indicator (RAI)≥1	71.3	84.5

[11] As this report was finalized, the WEAI team was revising the pro-WEAI indicators and thresholds. Thus, subsequent reports on this data are subject to change.

Ownership of assets	Owns at least two small assets (poultry, non-mechanized equipment, or small consumer durables) OR one large asset	Solely or jointly	99.2	100.0[12]
Decision-making over land	Belongs to a household that owns or cultivates land AND decides what to plant on land owned or cultivated by ANYONE in household	Solely or jointly	64.7	96.3
Access to and decisions on credit	Belongs to a household that used a source of credit in the past year AND participated in at least ONE decision about it; OR belongs to a household that did not use credit in the past year but could have if wanted to from at least ONE source	Solely or jointly Yes/maybe can take a loan	96.3	81.3
Access to a financial account	Has a financial account	Solely or jointly	10.8	16.1
Control over use of agricultural income	Participates in and has input into decisions related to how to use agricultural income	At least some input	93.2	99.0
Control over use of non-agricultural income	Participates in and has input into decisions related to how to use non-agricultural income	At least some input	63.5[13]	40.3
Input in household spending decisions	Made decision, had input in decisions, or feels could make decision if wanted to about large household purchases	At least a medium extent	76.8	99.2
Autonomy in income	Autonomy in income	RAI≥1	56.6	64.7
Group membership	Active member of at least ONE group	Yes	86.6	74.7
Workload	Works less than 10.5 hours per day	Primary activity + (1/2)childcare	58.7	82.4
Ability to visit important locations	Visits at least TWO locations	At least once a week	88.2	82.1
Respect among household members	Respondent respects relation AND relation respects respondent AND respondent trusts relation AND respondent is comfortable disagreeing with relation	Most of the time	92.4	93.2
Attitudes about domestic violence	Believes husband is NEVER justified in hitting or beating his wife	Never	30.0	62.4

Next, we present more detailed data on each empowerment indicator.

[12] Note that 0.8 percent of men's responses are missing.
[13] Note that 0.5 percent of women's responses are missing.

Production

Table 5 depicts the proportions of women and men who have input in productive decisions. Neither men or women participate to a large extent in high-value crop farming, non-farm activities, or wage employment relative to other income generating activities. However, it is interesting to note that, **among those women who participated in non-farm activities and wage and salary employment, a very high proportion had some decision-making power.**

Among the income-generating activities in which respondents are active, the majority of both men and women participate in making at least some decisions. However, a more detailed analysis of the data reveals that men more frequently participate in most or all of the decisions, while it is more common for women to participate in just some of the decisions.

Table 5: Input in productive decisions

Variable	Sample size	% of Women	Sample size	% of Men
In the previous year, respondent participated in…				
Staple grain farming	380	99.7%	380	97.1%
High value crop farming	380	52.9%	380	46.3%
Large livestock raising	380	64.2%	380	89.5%
Small livestock raising	380	90.0%	380	95.8%
Poultry and small animal raising	380	81.3%	380	97.9%
Non-farm activities	380	57.4%	380	35.0%
Wage and salary employment	380	19.2%	380	10.5%
Among respondents who participated in each activity…				
Proportion of respondents who participated in making at least some of the decisions regarding…				
Staple grain farming	324	79.8%	145	97.3%
High value crop farming	145	86.9%	69	84.1%
Large livestock raising	236	62.7%	90	96.7%
Small livestock raising	271	84.5%	153	98.0%
Poultry and small animal raising	268	75.7%	113	95.6%
Non-farm activities	83	94.0%	24	83.3%
Wage and salary employment	31	90.3%	8	87.5%
Proportion of respondents who could participate in activity to at least a medium extent if he/she wanted				
Staple grain farming	326	70.2%	145	96.6%
High value crop farming	145	75.2%	69	81.2%
Large livestock raising	236	54.7%	90	93.3%
Small livestock raising	271	74.5%	153	96.1%
Poultry and small animal raising	268	67.5%	114	95.6%
Non-farm activities	83	92.8%	24	79.2%
Wage and salary employment	31	87.1%	8	87.5%
Proportion of respondents who participated in making at least some decisions on the proportion of production for household consumption or sale				
Staple grain farming	379	81.5%	369	98.6%
High value crop farming	201	90.6%	176	94.3%
Large livestock raising	244	65.2%	339	98.8%
Small livestock raising	342	87.1%	364	99.2%
Poultry and small animal raising	309	88.0%	372	98.9%
Non-farm activities	217	97.7%	133	97.0%

Wage and salary employment	73	95.9%	40	95.0%

Table 6 shows the proportion of both women and men who have at least medium access to information regarding a variety of topics, conditional on their participation in each activity. These results suggest that **men have more access to important information for making decisions** concerning most activities. The exception is that, among women and men who participate in non-farm activities, the proportion of women and men who have access to information on non-farm activities is approximately equal.

Table 6: Access to information

Variable	Sample size	% of Women	Sample size	% of Men
Among respondents who participated in each activity, proportion with <u>at least medium access to information</u> important for making decisions concerning…				
Staple grain farming	379	74.6%	369	94.6%
High value crop farming	201	80.6%	176	89.2%
Large livestock raising	243	56.0%	340	94.7%
Small livestock raising	342	77.8%	364	94.5%
Poultry and small animal raising	309	82.1%	372	94.4%
Non-farm activities	218	89.5%	132	89.4%
Wage and salary employment	73	89.0%	40	97.5%
Large purchases	380	66.1%	380	92.1%
Routine purchases	380	67.9%	380	89.5%

In order to capture men's and women's autonomy in production, the enumerators read a series of stories, or vignettes, to the respondents regarding the motivation for a particular production decision. They then asked respondents whether they were similar to the person in each story. Each respondent could report that they were similar to individuals in multiple stories. Table 7 shows the proportion of women and men who reported that they were similar to the person in each story. Across all three domains of production (types of crops to grow, raising livestock, and bringing crops and livestock to market), the highest proportion of both men and women report that they are similar to individuals who make a specific decision because they think it is the best choice. In addition, across the three domains, a much higher proportion of women than men report that they are similar to individuals who do what their spouse or another individual or group in the community tell them to do. This suggests that **the motivation for women's productive decisions may be more driven by the influence of a spouse or community member than are men's decisions**. If an individual has an RAI score that is greater than or equal to 1 in any of the domains, then he or she is considered adequate in autonomy in production. As we saw in Table 4, 71.3 percent of women, as compared to 84.5 percent of men, have achieved autonomy in production.

Table 7: Autonomy in production

Domain of production	Story	% of Women who are similar to each type of person (n=380)	% of Men who are similar to each type of person (n=380)

Types of crops to develop to improve family consumption and market sales	[Person's name] cannot grow other types of crops for consumption and sale in the market because beans, sweet potato, and corn are the only crops grown here.	25.5%	23.2%
	[Person's name] is an agricultural producer who grows beans, sweet potato and corn because her [his] spouse or some other person or group in the community, told her [him] that she [he] has to grow these crops. She [he] does what she's [he's] told to do.	52.4%	29.2%
	[Person's name] grows crops based on the expectations of her [his] family or community. She [he] wants them to consider her [him] to be a good farmer.	71.6%	66.6%
	[Person's name] chooses the crops she [he] wants to grow for consumption and sale on the market; she [he] thinks it's the best choice for her [his] family and business. If she [he] changed her [his] mind, she [he] could act differently.	77.9%	88.2%
Raising livestock	[Person's name] cannot raise types of animals other than what she [he] has. These types of animals are the only ones that can be raised here.	52.1%	49.2%
	[Person's name] raises certain types of animals because her [his] spouse or some other person or group in the community told her [him] that she [he] has to raise these breeds. She [he] does what she [he] is told to do.	54.2%	29.7%
	[Person's name] buys the types of animals her [his] family or community expects her [him] to buy. She [he] wants them to recognize him as a good breeder.	68.7%	61.8%
	[Person's name] chooses the types of livestock she [he] wants to raise; she [he] thinks it's the best choice for her [his] family and business. She [He] enjoys raising these types of animals. If she [he] changed her [his] mind, she [he] could act differently.	78.4%	85.8%
Bringing crops or livestock (including eggs or milk) to the market (or choosing not to)	There is no alternative to the quantity of crops or livestock that [Person's name] brings to sell at the market. She [he] brings the only quantity it is possible for her [him] to bring.	62.6%	62.1%
	[Person's name] sells agricultural products and livestock at the market because her [his] spouse or another person or group in her [his] community told her [him] that she [he] has to sell them there. She [he] does what she [he] is told to do.	47.1%	29.5%
	[Person's name] sells crops and livestock at the market based on the expectations of her [his] family or members of the community. She [he] wants them to recognize her [him] as a good businesswoman [businessman].	71.8%	64.5%
	[Person's name] chooses to bring the crops and livestock to the market that she [he] wants to sell there and that she [he] thinks is best for her [his]	77.6%	81.6%

family and business. If she [he] changed her [his] mind, she [he] could act differently.

Resources

It is apparent that **women's control over assets is much lower than that of men**. Table 8 demonstrates that a much smaller proportion of women than men solely own each type of asset on which we collected data. These differences are generally quite pronounced, particularly for productive assets. The gap is largest for mechanized equipment, which 5.3 percent of women and 80.8 percent of men own solely, and smallest for small durable goods, which 56.7 percent of women own solely, as compared to 65.3 percent of men. More individuals own assets solely than jointly. The patterns of joint ownership and sole and joint ownership are less clear. While these categories of ownership also tend to favor men, suggesting that men may own assets jointly with other men, there are several assets for which higher proportions of women are joint or sole and joint owners. For example, a higher proportion of women than men are joint owners of houses, small durable goods, and means of transport.

Table 8: Ownership of assets

Variable	% of Women				% of Men			
	Sample size	Solely	Jointly	Solely and jointly	Sample size	Solely	Jointly	Solely and jointly
Among households possessing each asset, proportion of respondents who possess…								
Large livestock	338	13.9%	4.1%	1.8%	342	85.4%	6.1%	4.1%
Small livestock	367	47.4%	11.4%	5.2%	366	77.6%	13.4%	5.5%
Poultry	370	33.8%	12.7%	6.5%	371	78.7%	13.2%	6.7%
Non-mechanized agricultural equipment	318	20.4%	7.6%	6.6%	324	76.9%	13.3%	4.6%
Mechanized agricultural equipment	77	5.3%	2.6%	1.3%	78	80.8%	5.1%	0.0%
Non-agricultural commercial equipment	124	11.3%	2.4%	2.4%	133	77.4%	6.0%	4.5%
House (and other infrastructure)	281	22.1%	33.8%	3.9%	291	63.9%	26.8%	4.1%
Large durable goods	66	7.6%	6.1%	4.6%	76	76.3%	9.2%	2.6%
Small durable goods	347	56.7%	15.0%	10.1%	346	65.3%	13.9%	9.8%
Cell phone	337	56.1%	9.2%	1.8%	357	80.4%	11.8%	1.7%
Non-agricultural land	58	25.9%	8.6%	13.8%	80	65.0%	10.0%	11/3%
Means of transport	362	56.9%	14.1%	3.9%	370	81.1%	11.1%	4.6%

Table 9 focuses specifically on land ownership and decision making. A higher proportion of men (64.2 percent) than women (47.4 percent) own household land solely. However, a higher proportion of women own land than one might expect. Similar proportions of men and women own land jointly and solely and jointly. **Men are much more likely than women to make decisions alone regarding what to plant, while women are more likely than men to make these decisions with other people.** Although similar proportions of men and women cultivate land solely, only about 24 percent of women decide what to plant on the land that they cultivate, as compared to almost 70 percent of men who cultivate land.

Table 9: Decision-making over land

Variable	% of Women (n=377)	% of Men (n=377)
Who makes decisions about what to plant?		
Respondent alone	9.5%	64.2%
Respondent and other(s)	42.6%	30.8%
Other(s)	47.1%	4.2%
Respondent cultivates land…		
Solely	23.2%	23.9%
Jointly	43.2%	56.8%
Solely and jointly	32.6%	16.6%
No	1.8%	0.3%
Who makes decisions about what to plant on land respondent cultivates?		
Respondent alone	23.7%	69.7%
Respondent and other(s)	38.7%	26.6%
Other(s)	36.8%	2.9%
Respondent owns household land		
Solely	47.4%	64.2%
Jointly	9.7%	9.2%
Solely and jointly	8.7%	7.6%
No	33.4%	18.2%

Table 10 suggests that, among respondents whose household borrowed money in the previous year, **similar proportions of men and women are solely responsible for loan repayments**. While men are more likely to repay loans from NGOs, informal lenders, and friends/relatives, women are more likely to repay loans from group-based microfinance institutions and informal credit/savings groups. This is likely due to the fact that all women in the sample participate in savings groups.

Table 10: Access to and decisions on credit

Variable	% of Women (n=380)				% of Men (n=380)		
	House-holds borrowing from	Respondent alone	Respondent and other(s)	Other(s)	Respondent alone	Respondent and other(s)	Other(s)

source[14]							
Among respondents whose households borrowed from each source in previous year, who is responsible for loan repayments from…							
NGOs	187	67.7%	24.6%	7.7%	71.2%	15.4%	13.5%
Formal lenders	103						
Informal lenders	129	64.0%	24.0%	12.0%	75.0%	12.5%	12.5%
Friends/ relatives	271	65.3%	20.7%	14.1%	85.3%	10.9%	3.9%
Group-based MFI	291	67.3%	28.0%	4.8%	45.4%	27.8%	26.9%
Informal credit/savings group	365	74.8%	21.9%	3.4%	25.3%	26.4%	48.3%

Although low proportions of both women and men have sole or joint access to a financial account, men are more likely than women to have access to such an account (see Table 11). This data corresponds to national level data on financial account ownership; the latest Findex data indicates that on average, 14% of adult men and women have an account.[xvi]

Table 11: Access to financial account

Variable	% of Women (n=380)	% of Men (n=380)
Respondent has sole or joint access to a financial account[15]	10.8%	16.1%

Income

Table 12 indicates that the majority of both men and women who participate in various agricultural and non-agricultural activities also participate in at least some decisions regarding use of revenue generated by those activities. For agricultural activities, a higher proportion of men than women participate in at least some of these decisions. However, among the women and men who participate in non-farm activities and salaried employment, approximately equivalent proportions of women and men participate in deciding how to use revenue from these activities.

Table 12: Control over use of agricultural and non-agricultural income

Variable	Sample size	% of Women	Sample size	% of Men

[14] If a different number of men and women reported that their household had borrowed from a source, we listed the higher of the two numbers. The discrepancy is very small for most loan sources, but only 109 women report that their household borrows from an informal lender (as compared to 129 men) and only 268 men report that their household borrows from group-based MFI (as compared to 291 women),

[15] Note that 9 men and 16 women reported that they do not know if they have access to a financial account.

Among respondents who participated in each activity, proportion who participated in making at least some decisions regarding how to use revenue generated by…				
Agricultural activities				
Staple grain farming	379	82.6%	369	98.1%
High value crop farming	201	90.6%	176	93.8%
Large livestock raising	244	65.6%	339	98.8%
Small livestock raising	182	87.4%	346	98.9%
Poultry and small animal raising	309	78.0%	372	98.9%
Non-agricultural activities				
Non-farm activities	217	97.7%	133	97.0%
Salaried employment	73	95.9%	40	95.0%

Table 13 reveals that a higher proportion of men than women participated in making at least some of the decisions regarding buying large purchases as well as routine purchases. Men are also more likely than women to be able to participate in these activities to at least a medium extent if they wanted to.

Table 13: Input in household spending decisions

Variable	% of Women	% of Men
Among respondents who participated in each activity…		
Proportion of respondents who participated in making at least some of the decisions regarding…		
Large purchases	71.6%	96.8%
Routine purchases	73.5%	97.0%
Proportion of respondents who could participate in activity to at least a medium extent if he/she wanted		
Large purchases	65.6%	96.8%
Routine purchases	70.9%%	95.2%

Using the same method implemented for measuring autonomy in production, the enumerators read stories regarding motivation for decisions on how to use income generated from both agricultural and non-agricultural activities. The results in Table 14 on autonomy in income reflect the same pattern observed in autonomy in production. Specifically, the majority of both men and women make income decisions based on what they think is best and a much higher proportion of women than men make income decisions based on what a spouse or other individual or group in the community tell them to do. According to Table 4, 56.6 percent of women have achieved adequate autonomy in production (an RAI score greater than or equal to 1), as compared to 64.7 percent of men. This is much lower than the proportion of both women and men who achieved autonomy in production, most likely due to fact that many households in the sample are income constrained. As a result, a high proportion of men and women are not able to make strategic income decisions because their income is used to meet their immediate needs.

Table 14: Autonomy in income

Domain	Story	% of Women who are similar to each type of person	% of Men who are similar to each type of person

		(n=380)	(n=380)
How to use income generated from agricultural and non-agricultural activities	There is no alternative for [Person's name] regarding how she [he] uses her [his] income. The way in which she [he] uses her [his] income is determined by necessity (or circumstances).	78.7%	77.4%
	[Person's name] uses her [his] income based on whether her [his] spouse, or another person or group in the community, told her [him] how to use it. She [He] does what she [he] is told to do.	51.3%	35.0%
	[Person's name] uses her [his] income based on the expectations of her [his] family or members of the community. She [He] wants them to approve of her [his] way of managing her [his] business.	74.0%	70.3%
	[Person's name] chooses to use her [his] income how she [he] personally wants to use it and how it seems best for her [his] family and business. If she [he] changed her [his] mind, she [he] could act differently.	82.9%	85.5%

Leadership

After confirming that all of the groups listed in Table 15 exist in each of the sample communities, we collected data on the proportions of women and men who are active members of each type of group and on the extent of their involvement in these groups. The results demonstrate that **men and women tend to participate in different types of groups**. For example, while more women than men participate in agricultural/livestock groups, credit or microfinance groups, mutual assistance or insurance groups, commercial or professional associations, or civic groups, more men than women participate in water users groups, forest users groups, and religious groups. However, **among participants in each group, a higher proportion of men than women influence group decisions** to at least a medium extent for all group types. This discrepancy in influence over group decisions is not reflected in the proposed group membership indicator in Table 4, which simply shows that more women than men are active members of at least one group.

Table 15: Group membership

Variable	Sample size	% of Women	Sample size	% of Men
Proportion of respondents who are active members of…				
Agricultural/livestock/fisheries group	330	75.2%	319	50.8%
Water users group	124	21.8%	158	43.7%
Forest users group (n=48)	111	10.8%	120	30.0%
Credit or microfinance group	335	71.3%	319	17.6%
Mutual assistance or insurance group	158	82.3%	159	61.0%
Commercial or professional association	71	59.2%	68	44.1%

Civic group	160	62.5%	164	56.7%
Religious group	338	66.6%	322	68.3%
Among respondents who participated in each group…				
Proportion of respondents who can influence the decisions of the group to at least a medium extent				
Agricultural/livestock/fisheries group	248	91.5%	162	94.4%
Water users group	27	88.9%	69	94.2%
Forest users group	12	91.7%	36	97.2%
Credit or microfinance group	239	91.2%	56	98.2%
Mutual assistance or insurance group	130	91.5%	97	95.9%
Commercial or professional association	42	85.7%	30	96.7%
Civic group	100	85.0%	93	95.7%
Religious group	224	83.5%	220	92.7%

Time Use

Table 16 below shows time use data collected using a 24-hour recall instrument in which each respondent explains what activity they performed in 15-minute intervals. On average, **women spent 1 hour and 42 minutes more time than men on paid and unpaid work activities**. When just assessing primary activities, we find that the majority of both men (82.4%) and women (77.6%) worked less than 10.5 hours in the previous 24 hours. Approximately 45 percent of women performed childcare as a secondary activity (that is, while simultaneously performing other activities), as compared to just 3 percent of men. Moreover, among those who performed childcare as a secondary activity, women spent almost twice as much time on this task as did men. To account for this, the pro-WEAI counts time spent on primary activities plus 50 percent of time spent on childcare as a secondary activity, finding that 58.7 percent of women and 82.4 percent of men worked less than 10.5 hours in the previous 24 hours (see Table 4).

Table 16: Workload[16]

Variable	Women (n=380)	Men (n=380)
Percent of respondents who worked less than 10.5 hours in previous 24 hours	77.6%	82.4%
Average time spent on paid and unpaid work activities	(08:09)	(06:27)
Percent of respondents who performed childcare as secondary activity[17]	45.3%	3.4%
Average time spent on childcare as secondary activity among those reporting any child care	(06:50)	(03:37)

[16] The list of activities includes caring for children. In addition, respondents explained whether they also cared for children at the same time as performing each of their other activities.
[17] This variable only captures the proportion of respondents who cared for children while simultaneously performing other activities.

Mobility

In the module on physical mobility, we collected data on how often respondents visit an urban center, market, relatives, friends/neighbors, hospital/clinic/doctor, or a public gathering/meeting/NGO training. We identified who makes decisions about whether women respondents visit each of these places, in addition to a temple/church/mosque and locations outside of the respondent's community. Finally, we gathered information on whether women's partners object to women going alone to each of these locations. While the survey includes questions about whether any objections restricted women from visiting these places, very few people answered these questions; therefore, the results have not been included.

Figure 4 displays the percent of men and women who visit between 0 and 6 locations at least once per week. This reveals that women generally visit several places at least once per week and there are no major discrepancies between the number of places visited by men and women. **While women are generally mobile, many of them have limited decision-making power regarding the locations that they visit** (see Table 17). A very small proportion of women decide alone to visit various locations, ranging from just 2.4 percent of women deciding alone to visit a location outside of their community to a high of 27.1 percent of women making a sole decision to visit a sacred place. Women often make joint decisions with their spouse regarding the places that they visit. However, it is also common for women to be excluded from decisions regarding their mobility. For example, for 55.3 percent of women respondents, someone else decides whether they can travel outside of their village. Men's and women's focus group discussions also reflected this limitation on women's mobility, revealing that women often seek their husband's permission to leave the household compound. Moreover, almost 20 percent of men and over 44 percent of women believe that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife if she leaves the house without telling him.

Only a small proportion of women's partners object to them leaving the house alone. The largest proportion of women's partners object to their spouse traveling alone outside of the community (6.1 percent) and the smallest proportion of women's partners object to their spouse going alone to a public village gathering or community meeting (1.8 percent).

Figure 4: Number of places visited at least once per week, by sex of respondent

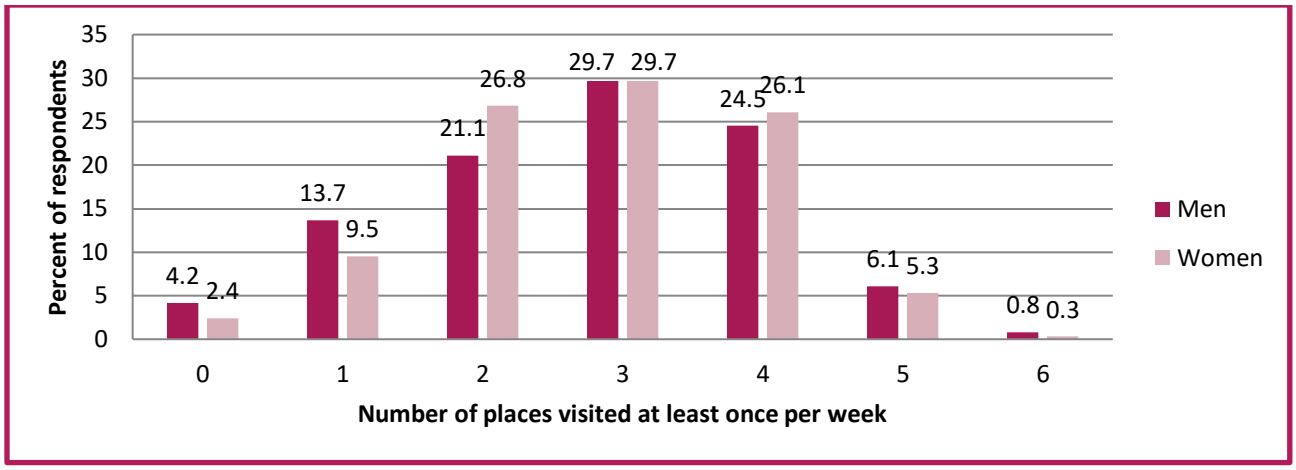


Table 17: Who makes decisions about women's mobility

Who makes decisions about whether female respondent visits…? (n=380)	Respondent alone	Respondent and other(s)	Other(s)
Urban center	3.9%	40.3%	50.5%
Market/haat/bazaar	13.2%	43.4%	43.2%
Family or relatives	5.8%	42.9%	51.1%
Friends or neighbors	25%	39.7%	35.3%
Hospital/clinic/doctor	3.9%	43.2%	52.9%
Temple/church/mosque/sacred places	27.1%	42.4%	30%
Public village gathering or community meeting	10.8%	45%	44.2%
Training for NGO programs	11.1%	43.2%	43.5%
A location outside the community or village	2.4%	41.8%	55.3%

Intrahousehold Relationships

Table 18 suggests that there are generally high levels of mutual respect and trust between household members, as well as comfort expressing disagreement with other members of the household. However, this **mutual respect and trust are higher between husbands and wives than between co-wives**. The qualitative analysis that we conducted on this project also reflects this dynamic.[18] For example, one of the life histories that we collected from a 62-year old woman from Didyr revealed that she acted as a facilitator in conflicts between co-wives. She explained, "My husband treated all his wives well. But I was the most beloved," suggesting that co-wives sometimes compete for their husband's favor.

[18] See "Understanding Gender Norms in Rural Burkina Faso: A Qualitative Assessment" at https://www.grameenfoundation.org/sites/default/files/resources/Understanding_Gender_Norms_Baseline_Qualitative_Assessment_BRB.pdf

Table 18: Respect among household members

Variable	% of Women (n=380)	% of Men (n=380)
There is mutual respect between respondent and spouse most of the time	99.2%	98.7%
Respondent trusts husband/wife most of the time	98.2%	97.9%
Respondent is comfortable telling husband/wife that she/he disagrees most of the time	92.9%	94.7%
Variable	**% of Women in Polygynous Marriage (n=231)**	
There is mutual respect between respondent and senior co-wife most of the time[19]	93.9%	
Respondent trusts most senior co-wife most of the time	90%	
Respondent is comfortable telling the most senior co-wife that she disagrees most of the time	88.7%	

In the module on domestic violence, we asked both men and women if they believe that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife if she leaves the house without informing him, neglects the children or does not care for them well, argues with him, refuses to have sex with him, or burns or does not cook their food. On average, **men are twice as likely as women to report that domestic violence is never justified** (see Table 19). This large discrepancy may reflect a more pronounced social desirability bias among men than among women regarding domestic violence. Among both men and women, the highest proportion believe that a husband has reason to beat his wife if she argues with him, followed by the wife leaving without telling her husband and neglecting the children. The lowest proportion of men and women believe that domestic violence is justified for burning food, followed by refusal to have sex.

Table 19: Attitudes about domestic violence

Variable	% of Women (n=380)	% of Men (n=380)
Believes that husband is never justified in hitting or beating his wife	29.2%	60.8%

Nutrition and Health of Women

Table 20 demonstrates that about 64 percent of women participate in decisions regarding their own healthcare, including whether to visit a doctor and how much to sleep when they are sick. Approximately 60 percent of women participate in reproductive decisions, which include deciding whether to have another child and whether to use contraception. More than three quarters of women make food consumption decisions such as what food to prepare and what food they can eat.

[19] If respondent was the senior co-wife, questions were asked about the co-wife who arrived in the household immediately after the senior co-wife.

Among the 380 women interviewed, 83 were pregnant at the time of the survey or had given birth in the previous 18 months. About 64 percent of these women reported participating in decisions regarding their care during pregnancy, including deciding whether to visit a doctor or a health center during pregnancy and deciding how much time to spend working and resting during pregnancy. 80 percent of these women can decide how much time to spend working and resting while they are lactating. A very high proportion (more than 80 percent) decide if they can eat eggs, dairy products, and meat during pregnancy and lactation.

Table 20: Women's Nutrition and Health

Variable	Maximum number of decisions possible	Mean	% yes to all
Input into nutrition and health decisions		n=380	
Input into own healthcare decisions	2	1.39	63.7%
Input into reproductive decisions	2	1.60	59.5%
Input into food consumption decisions	2		76.3%
Input into nutrition and health decisions during pregnancy		n=83[20]	
Input into care during pregnancy	3	2.33	63.9%
Input into animal source food consumption during pregnancy	3	2.48	77.1%
Input into care while lactating	2	1.65	80.7%
Input into animal source food consumption while lactating	3	2.64	80.7%

A-WEAI

The first subindex of the WEAI evaluates the extent to which women are empowered in five domains of empowerment (5DE) in agriculture. Among those who do not meet the combined empowerment threshold, it reflects the percentage of individual domains in which women are empowered. The Gender Parity Index (GPI), which measures gender parity within households, is the second subindex. It reveals the percentage of women who are equally empowered as the men in their households. For those households that have not achieved gender parity, GPI shows the empowerment gap that must be closed for women to be as empowered as men.[21]

After implementing the WEAI in numerous Feed the Future baseline surveys in 2012 and 2013, IFPRI and USAID, in consultation with OPHI, revised the WEAI and developed a shorter, streamlined version called the Abbreviated WEAI (A-WEAI). The A-WEAI measures the five original domains of empowerment included in the WEAI, but

[20] Note that only women who were pregnant or had given birth in the previous 1.5 years were eligible to answer questions regarding pregnancy.
[21] See https://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/Basic%20Page/weai_instructionalguide_1.pdf for more information.

uses only six indicators as opposed to 10. It also includes autonomy vignettes, a 24-hour recall time module that only collects information on primary activities, and shorter modules on production decisions and resources.[22] The domains are measured by the following indicators:

1. **Production**: measured by input in productive decisions. Achievement in production is considered inadequate if an individual participates but does not have at least some input in decisions or she does not make the decision nor feel like she could. It comprises 1/5 of the five domains of empowerment (5DE) score.
2. **Resources**: measured by (1) ownership of assets and (2) access to and decisions on credit. Asset ownership is inadequate if the household does not own any asset or if the household owns the type of asset but the individual does not own most of it alone. This comprises 2/15 of the 5DE score. Access to and decision on credit is inadequate if a household has no credit of used a source of credit but the individual did not participate in any decisions about it. This is given a weight of 1/15 of the 5DE score.
3. **Income**: measured by control over use of income. Inadequate if an individual participates in an activity but has no or little input in decisions about income generated, or does not feel she/he can make decisions regarding wage, employment, and major household expenditures. It makes up 1/5 of the 5DE score.
4. **Leadership**: measured by group membership. Inadequate if an individual is not part of at least one group or if no groups are reported in the community. It represents 1/5 of the 5DE score.
5. **Time**: measured by workload using 24-hour recall. Inadequate if an individual works more than 10.5 hours per day. It is given a weight of 1/5 of the 5DE score.[23]

Using each individual's responses to the survey questions, we assign a value of 1 to each of the six indicators if the individual's achievement is adequate and a value of 0 if achievement is inadequate. An individual's empowerment score is the weighted average of these six indicators using the weights described above.[24]

Table 21 reports the overall A-WEAI score as well as the subindexes for the households in our sample in Burkina Faso. Surprisingly, we find that 97 percent of women and 96 percent of men in the sample have achieved empowerment. The 3 percent of women who are not yet empowered have inadequate achievement in 61 percent of the domains of empowerment (or approximately 3 of the 5 domains). Similarly, the 4 percent of men who are not yet empowered have inadequate achievement in 60 percent of domains. To find the women's disempowerment score, we multiply 3 percent by 61 percent, which equals approximately 0.01. Women's 5DE score is .97 + (.03 x [1 – .39]) = 0.99. Using the same approach, we find that men's disempowerment score is 0.02 and men's 5DE score is 0.98. The GPI score shows that 99 percent of women have gender parity with

[22] For a more detailed explanation of how the A-WEAI was developed and how it differs from the WEAI, see https://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/a-weai_instructional_guide_final.pdf.
[23] Information adapted from Table 2 in https://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/a-weai_instructional_guide_final.pdf.
[24] See https://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/a-weai_instructional_guide_final.pdf.

the primary male in their households. Among the 1 percent of women who are less empowered than the primary male in their household, the average empowerment gap is 25 percent. This results in an GPI of 1 – (.01 x .25) = 0.99. To calculate the overall A-WEAI score of 0.99, which is a weighted average of the two subindexes, we multiply 0.9 by the 5DE score and add 0.1 times the GPI score.

Table 21: A-WEAI Values

	Women	Men
5DE score	0.99	0.98
Disempowerment score (1 – 5DE)	0.01	0.02
Number of observations	301	217
% achieving empowerment	97%	96%
% not achieving empowerment	3%	4%
Mean 5DE score for not yet empowered	0.61	0.60
Mean disempowerment score for not yet empowered (1 – 5DE)	0.39	0.40
GPI score	1.00	
Number of dual-adult households	217	
% achieving gender parity	99%	
% not achieving gender parity	1%	
Average empowerment gap	0.25	
A-WEAI score	0.99	

In order to identify the key factors contributing to the disempowerment of women and men in our sample, we decompose the disempowerment index by domain and indicator in Table 22 and visually display these results in Figures 5-7. According to the A-WEAI, the indicators that contribute most to women's disempowerment are group membership (45.8 percent) and workload (45.8 percent), followed by input in productive decisions (5.1 percent) and ownership of assets (3.4 percent). 3 percent of the surveyed women are not a member of a group and are overburdened in terms of workload and 0.3 percent do not have adequate input in productive decisions or ownership of assets. The indicators that contribute to men's disempowerment are group membership (50 percent) and workload (50 percent). 4.1 percent of the surveyed men are not a member of a group and are overburdened in terms of workload. However, given that only 3 percent of women and 4 percent of men fall into the category of disempowerment, the results should be interpreted with extreme caution.

Table 22: Burkina Faso 5DE Decomposed by Dimension and Indicator

DOMAIN	Production	Resources		Income	Leadership	Time
Indicator	**Input in productive decisions**	**Ownership of assets**	**Access to and decisions on credit**	**Control over use of income**	**Group member**	**Workload**

Indicator weight	0.2	0.13	0.0667	0.2	0.2	0.2
WOMEN						
Censored headcount	0.003	0.003	0.000	0.000	0.030	0.030
% Contribution	5.1%	3.4%	0.0%	0.0%	45.8%	45.8%
Contribution	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.006	0.006
% Contribution by dimension	5.1%	3.4%		0.0%	45.8%	45.8%
MEN						
Censored headcount	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.041	0.041
% Contribution	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%	50.0%
Contribution	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.008	0.008
% Contribution by dimension	0.0%	0.0%		0.0%	50.0%	50.0%

Figure 5

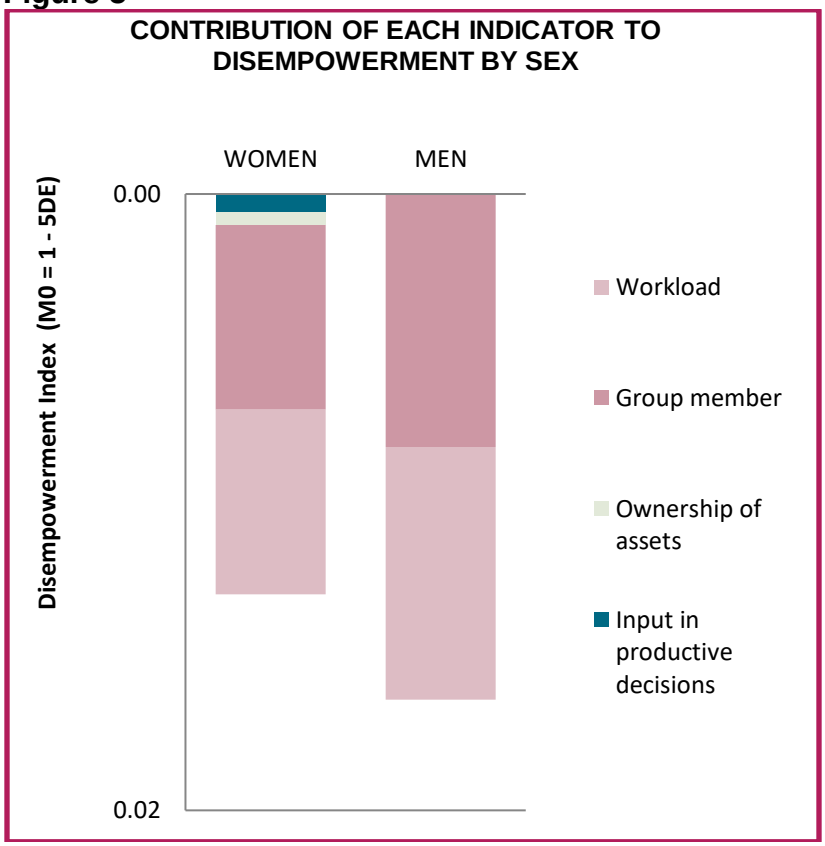


Figure 6

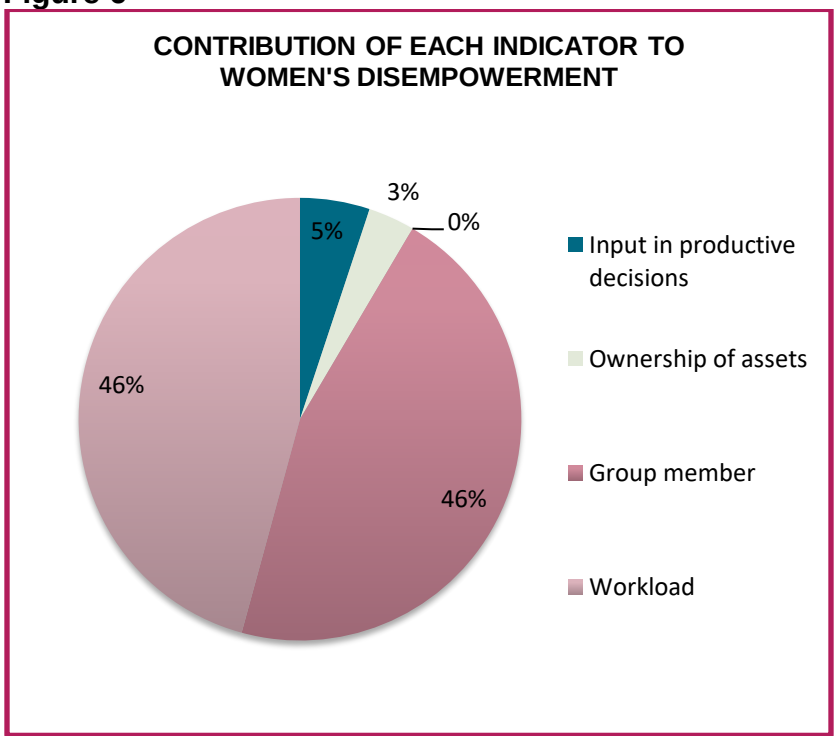
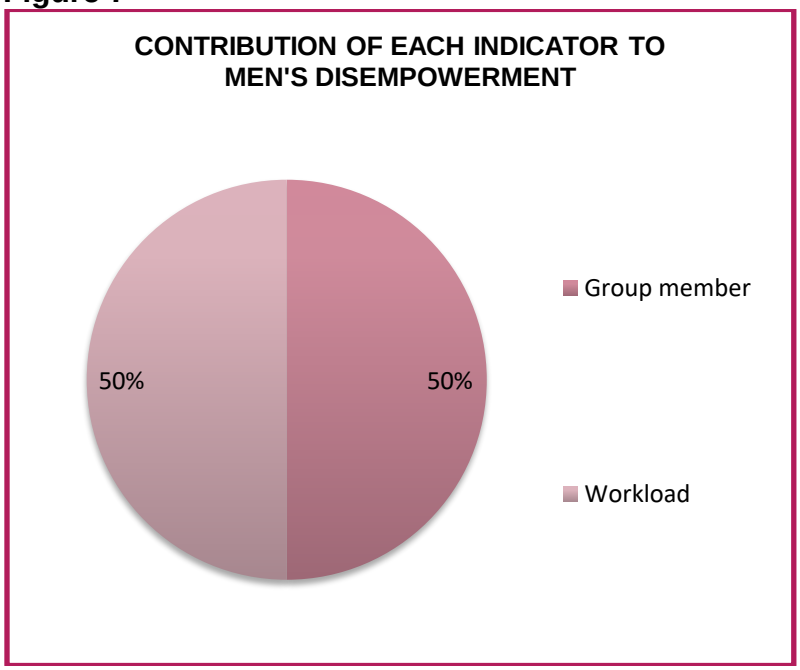


Figure 7


CONTRIBUTION OF EACH INDICATOR TO MEN'S DISEMPOWERMENT
50%
50%
Group member
Workload

DISCUSSION

Although the A-WEAI suggests that a very high proportion of women and men in the sample are empowered, these results do not align with the disaggregated quantitative results presented in this report or the findings from our qualitative analysis. One explanation for this discrepancy is that, unlike most settings, all of the women in both the control and treatment groups of this study participate in savings groups. As a result, there is almost no variation in group membership. Our qualitative analysis provides suggestive evidence that participating in savings groups may contribute to women's empowerment. However, in a context in which women's savings groups are ubiquitous, group membership may not be the most useful indicator of women's current empowerment status. As we saw in Table 18, while more women than men are active members of groups, male group members have more influence on group decisions than do female group members. We recommend including this information in the group membership indicator.

The A-WEAI, in contrast to the pro-WEAI, does not include a measure of physical mobility. The pro-WEAI only includes a measure of the proportion of women who visited at least two locations in the previous week. This fails to capture important information regarding who makes decisions about women's mobility. Both the quantitative and qualitative data suggest that women's control over their own mobility is severely restricted. Very few women make such decisions alone. In general, women ask their husband's permission to leave the compound, and many women believe that failing to do so is sufficient justification for husbands to beat their wives. Focusing exclusively on whether women leave their households obscures this limitation on their agency.

According to the A-WEAI, workload is a large contributor to the disempowerment of both men and women. However, it is important to note that the A-WEAI only includes information on primary activities. The pro-WEAI collects data on childcare as a secondary activity and these data suggest that much higher proportions of women than men are involved in childcare and, among those who care for children, women spend much more time than men on this task. By defining workload as follows:

$$Total\ workload = time\ spent\ on\ primary\ activities + \frac{1}{2}(time\ spent\ on\ childcare)$$

the pro-WEAI finds that only 58.7 percent of women work less than 10.5 hours per day, while 82.4 percent of men work less than this amount. We believe that the pro-WEAI results, by including secondary activities and explicitly collecting data on childcare, more accurately reflect the work burdens of men and women than the A-WEAI.

In contrast to these findings, our qualitative research suggests that men work more than women. This inconsistency between the qualitative and quantitative findings may be due to the lack of acknowledgement of household chores, cooking, or caring for children as work when asked open-ended questions about workload. In the time use module of the quantitative survey, the enumerators explicitly stated that they were interested in time spent on making meals, personal care, and housework as well as time spent on

childcare as either a primary or secondary activity. In addition, by asking respondents to describe each activity that they performed in 15-minute intervals over the previous 24 hours, this time use module captured more precise information on the workload of men and women than did the qualitative tools. Both men and women in the communities studied might benefit from seeing these results in order to raise awareness that their perceptions of the relative work burdens of men and women may differ from reality. We recommend using quantitative tools to capture time use and qualitative tools to understand individual perspectives on satisfaction with the amount of time available for leisure.

Compared to the A-WEAI, the pro-WEAI more accurately reflects the gender imbalance in empowerment that we observed in the qualitative data. However, the pro-WEAI indicators also obscure some of the discrepancies observed in a more detailed analysis of the quantitative data. Acknowledging that an index necessarily sacrifices some nuance for generalizability, we believe that some of the proposed indicators could better capture existing inequalities between men and women.

Finally, collecting data on domains not included in previous versions of the WEAI provides important insights into the status of men and women in our sample. In particular, the additional information on physical mobility, domestic violence, and women's reproductive and health care decisions highlight important areas for improvements in women's empowerment.

CONCLUSION

Analysis of the pro-WEAI baseline survey results highlights important discrepancies between men and women in two rural communities of Burkina Faso. A higher proportion of men than women achieve adequacy in 12 of the 16 draft pro-WEAI indicators. More women than men achieve adequacy in group membership, control over use of non-agricultural income, mobility, and access to and decisions on credit. The women in the sample were selected because they participate in community-based women's savings groups, which provide agricultural, nutrition, financial services, and women's empowerment programming. As a result, these findings most likely do not reflect patterns of empowerment among the broader rural population of Burkina Faso.

A deeper analysis of the data indicates that women many not have as much control in these domains as the indicators suggest. For example, across all types of groups, higher proportions of male group members influence group decisions to at least a medium extent. Women likely have greater control over use of non-agricultural income because they are more likely than men to participate in non-farm activities and wage or salary employment. However, less than one-fifth of women participate in such activities. Moreover, men more frequently participate in most or all production decisions, while women generally participate in just some of the decisions. The motivation for women's productive decisions may be more driven by the influence of a spouse or community member than are men's decisions. In addition, while women regularly visit multiple locations, including savings group meetings, most women have limited control over decisions regarding their own mobility. Over 44 percent of women believe that a husband is justified in beating his wife if she leaves the house without telling him. When women participate in decisions regarding the places that they visit, they generally make these decisions jointly with their spouses.

Similarly, women tend to jointly own resources and make joint decisions over land. A much higher proportion of men than women solely own each type of asset. These discrepancies are particularly pronounced for productive assets. More men than women also make decisions alone regarding what to plant, while more women than men make these decisions with other people. Although similar proportions of men and women cultivate land solely, more than two-thirds of men decide what to plant on land that they cultivate, but only about one-quarter of women who cultivate land make these decisions. Further research is needed to better understand the relationship between joint ownership and decision making and men's and women's empowerment in agriculture.

Overall, it is evident that women are less empowered than men in our sample. Women participate in fewer production decisions, have less access to information relevant for making such decisions, solely own fewer resources, have less access to financial accounts, are less likely to participate in decisions regarding the use of revenue generated by agricultural activities and regarding large and routine purchases, and are more time constrained. Even in the areas in which women seem to be empowered such as group membership and mobility, we observe that men have greater influence over group decisions and women's ability to make decisions regarding their mobility is severely restricted. Although high proportions of men and women report that there is

mutual respect and trust between household members, more than 70 percent of women report that husbands are sometimes justified in hitting or beating their wives, suggesting that this behavior may be prevalent in the area. It is clear that there is room for substantial improvements in women's empowerment.

ANNEXES

Annex Table 1: Summary of Villages Surveyed

Treatment Zone				Control Zone			
Treatment Villages	No. of House-holds	No. of respondents per HH	Total No. of Respon-dents	Control Villages	No. of HH	No. of respondents per HH	Total No. of Respon-dents
DOUDOULCY	9	2	18	BONDAOGTENGA	9	2	18
DIDYR	10	2	20	BOUNA	10	2	20
GOKO	9	2	18	DOUMBASSA	9	2	18
GOUMI	10	2	20	GOERSA	10	2	20
KIA	9	2	18	KANGOTENGA	9	2	18
POUNI NORD	10	2	20	KOBE	10	2	20
LADIANA	9	2	18	MOBGOWINDTENGA	9	2	18
BOULDIE	10	2	20	NABONSWENDE	10	2	20
LADIOU	9	2	18	NIEMPOUROU	9	2	18
MOGUEYA	10	2	20	NOAGTENGA	10	2	20
MOUSSEO	9	2	18	YE	9	2	18
MOUZOUMOU	10	2	20	SIDIKITENGA	10	2	20
YAMADIO	9	2	18	SIGUINVOUSSE	9	2	18
YOULOUPO	10	2	20	WATINOMA	10	2	20
DELBA	9	2	18	BOSSON	9	2	18
DEMAPOUIN	10	2	20	SANKOUE	10	2	20
GOUROU	10	2	20	YAMBTENGA	10	2	20
KONEGA	10	2	20	KWON	10	2	20
KONTIGUE	10	2	20	NABORO	10	2	20
ZOLO	10	2	20	SUI	10	2	20
Total Treatment Zone	**192**	**2**	**384**	**Total Control Zone**	**192**	**2**	**384**

Annex Table 2: Community Questionnaire Results

Variable	Results	% or mean Total (n=40)	% or mean Treatment Villages (n=20)	% or mean Control Villages (n=20)
A. Pre-Interview Identification				

Sources of Identification - 1st most common	Village members	52.5%	50.0%	55.0%
Sources of Identification - 2nd most common	Other	47.5%	65.0%	30.0%
B. Community Identification				
Average distance from village to main road (km)		0.28	0.25	0.30
Range for distance from village to main road (kms)		0-2		
Average population size		2447	2937	1957
Range of population size		189-10,945		
Number of villages with pop of 1-5,000		92.5%	90.0%	95.0%
Number of villages with pop of 5,001 to 10,945		7.5%	10.0%	5.0%
1st most common ethnic group	Mossi	80.0%	70.0%	90.0%
2nd most common ethnic group	Gourounsi	67.5%	100.0%	35.0%
1st most common religion	Christian	97.5%	100.0%	95.0%
2nd most common religion	Muslim	95.0%	90.0%	100.0%
3rd most common religion	Animist	95.0%	100.0%	90.0%
1st most common type of IGA for village	Agriculture	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
2nd most common type of IGA for village	Large livestock	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
3rd most common type of IGA for village	Small livestock	97.5%	95.0%	100.0%
4th most common type of IGA for village	Petty commerce	97.5%	100.0%	95.0%
C. Services Available to People in Locality				
Electricity is available to people in this community		5.0%	10.0%	0.0%
Drinking water is available		25.0%	35.0%	15.0%
Private or public banks or credit unions are available		5.0%	5.0%	5.0%
Mobile phone service is available		27.5%	30.0%	25.0%
Primary school is located in community		95.0%	95.0%	95.0%
Secondary school in community		22.5%	25.0%	20.0%
Post-secondary or technical school in community		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Public health clinic or health center available		35.0%	35.0%	35.0%
National or Regional hospital		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Market		52.5%	60.0%	45.0%
D. Agricultural Programs				
Existance of farm programs, etc. that provide services to women farmers in community		47.5%	20.0%	75.0%
E. Agriculture and Livestock				
1st most common crop in village	millet	62.5%	70.0%	55.0%
2nd most common crop in village	sorghum	60.0%	50.0%	70.0%
3rd most common crop in village	cowpeas	55.0%	75.0%	35.0%
1st most common type of livestock in village	goats	87.5%	90.0%	85.0%
2nd most common type of livestock in village	sheep	92.5%	95.0%	90.0%
3rd most common type of livestock in village	chickens	90.0%	85.0%	95.0%

Annex 3: BRB Impact Study Baseline Results

Study Limitations

Initial findings from the BRB baseline survey indicated key differences between intervention and control groups. This development emphasizes the importance of using PSM to appropriately match treatment and control participants for the analysis. Differences between groups included demographics; income, savings and financial services; agricultural livelihoods; nutrition and food security; gender empowerment, and resilience. Overall, the control group appears to be better-off than the treatment group.

Although the control group parameters were selected carefully, the number of villages that met the selection criteria of having ODE SGs – non-participation in the BRB program as well as similarity in economic stats - was limited. Several government agriculture training programs exist in rural villages, as well as several NGO-sponsored agricultural programs. The research teams later found out that in the control area: 1) the NGO CRS has worked with some local NGOs to do SGs with agricultural interventions; 2) there are several government agricultural programs in the province; 3) the Millennium Challenge Corporation has projects in the area; 4) other NGOs such as CAREME SUISSE, S.O.S. SAHEL, ETAT and REPAM have been active as well. The concern is not that the control group was contaminated with the same program as the treatment group, it is that both groups differ in some fundamental ways and have had mixed exposure to programs that makes them dissimilar at the starting point.

These differences make a clean comparison difficult without the use of proper analytical techniques. As a way to understand when differences in treatment and control group findings were unlikely due to chance, statistical tests were run to compare the results. P-values for the 0.05 and 0.01 levels are provided for most results in the BRB Baseline Impact Study report[25].

Demographics & Poverty Level

Results from the BRB impact study are presented below. Tables A-C summarize data from the 429 women interviewed in the impact study sample. Text is pulled directly from the BRB Baseline Report.

Table 3 outlines demographic indicators to provide context on the women surveyed. All 429 participants in the study are women and are in SGs formed by ODE. The average age is around 40 years, with the majority in polygamous marriages. Household size ranges from 4 to 35 people and, on average, households have 12-14 people. It is clear that the target population is quite vulnerable - most of the women are illiterate, few have ever attended school, and most are food insecure (food security results are discussed in greater length later in the Results section).

[25] Ibid, 2017, forthcoming.

Ethnic group and religion vary for both the treatment and control group. The treatment group is mostly Gourounsi (86%) with some Mossi (12%), whereas the control group is mostly Mossi (56%), with a mixture of Gourounsi (16%) and Dioula (18%). The dominant religion of the treatment group is Christian (73%) with some Muslims (23%), and the control group is mostly Muslim (61%) with some Christians (36%). These ethnic and religious differences help explain differences in livelihood choices as well as some cultural practices. More importantly, most of the Mossi of the control group are considered "immigrants" in the areas where they reside in the Nayala province. These immigrants are known for being more economically active, and as multiple findings across the survey show, they are better-off overall in comparison to the treatment group. There are a few other small differences clearly related to culture. For example, more of the treatment group engages in dolo production (local beer) and fewer members of the control group raise pigs, but the most significant difference related to ethnicity in this particular case revolves around economic status.

Annex Table 3A: Key Demographics from BRB Impact Study Baseline

Indicator	Treatment (n=218)	Control (n=211)
Average age	40.9 years	39.7 years
In a monogamous marriage	21%	36%**
Polygamous marriage, 1st wife	30%	32%
Polygamous marriage, 2nd or 3rd wife	38%	25%**
Widowed	10%	8%
Average household size	14.1 people	12.5 people**
Illiterate	77%	84%
Who ever attended school	17%	15%
Food insecure	81%	67%**
Gourounsi ethnic group	86%	16%**
Mossi ethnic group	12%	56%**
Dioula ethnic group	0%	18%**
Samo ethnic group	0%	10%**
Muslim	23%	61%**
Christian	73%	36%**

One asterisk (*) signifies a p-values of <.05 and two asterisks (**) indicate a p-value of less than <.01.

Using the Progress out of Poverty Index (PPI),[26] Figure 4 illustrates the following treatment group findings on poverty levels:

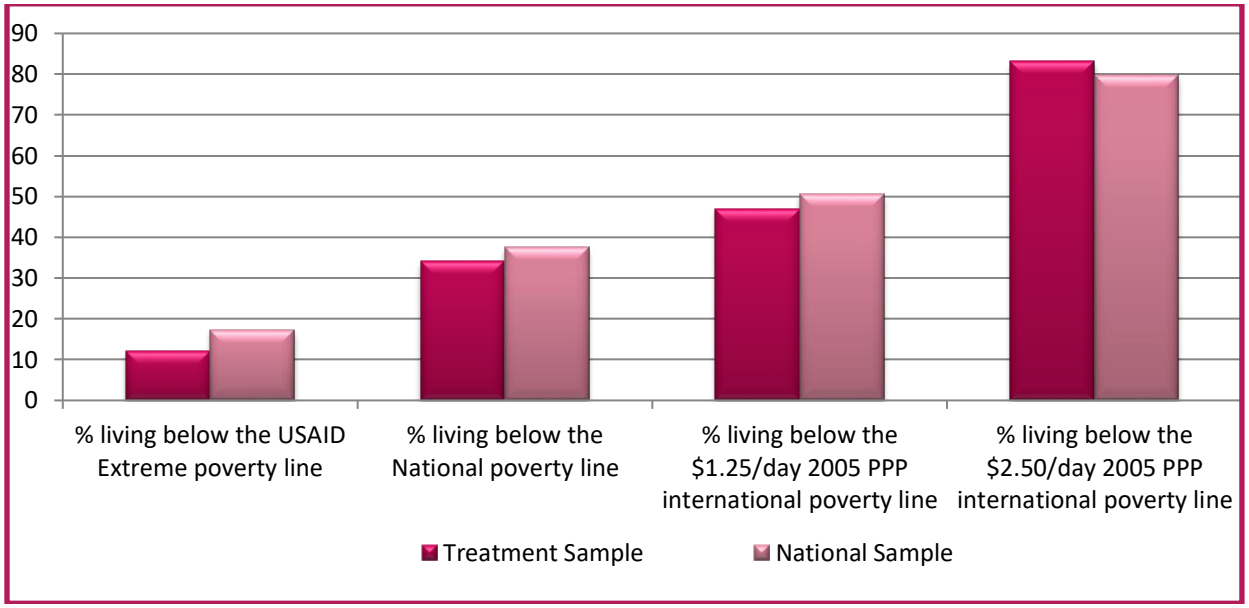
- 12 percent live below the USAID Extreme poverty line, (estimated at CFA 153 per person per day, based on 2003 measures), which represents the median expenditure of people (not households) below the national poverty line.
- 34 percent are estimated to live below the national poverty line (NPL), estimated at CFA 226 per person per day—based on year 2003 measures.

[26] This survey was developed using a national poverty survey conducted in 2003. Therefore, the benchmarks provided here are provided by Mark Schreiner in the documentation for the Burkina Faso PPI survey and may not relate to latest poverty measurements found by the World Bank or others. Please see the PPI documentation at http://progressoutofpoverty.org/country/burkina-faso

- 47 percent live below the $1.25/day 2005 PPP international poverty line (IPL; estimated at CFA 288 in 2003 measures)
- 83 percent live below the $2.50/day 2005 PPP international poverty line (estimated at CFA 577 in 2003 measures)

All poverty rates are slightly lower among the study population compared to the national averages, with the exception of the $2.50/day IPL rate, which is slightly higher. The findings for the control group were similar to those of the treatment group, with 14 percent estimated to fall below the extreme poverty line, 37 percent at the NPL, 49 percent at the $1.25/day IPL, and 84 percent at the $2.50/day IPL. The only finding that is statistically significantly different than the treatment group is those falling under the NPL, with a little more (3%) of the control group likely falling under this line. We do not expect the program to change these measures of the poverty status.

Annex Figure 3A. Poverty Status and National Benchmarks



Annex Table 3B: Sample General Indicators from the BRB Impact Survey Baseline

Indicator	Treatment (n=218)	Control (n=211)
Financial Services		
Member of group savings and credit at a MFI (or HH member)	6%	25%**
Has a formal savings account (or HH member)	10%	14%
Has an agricultural loan (or HH member)	6%	17%**
Has individual mobile wallet	2%	1%
Receive remittances	62%	53%
Income-generating activities:		
petty commerce	90%	77%**
livestock fattening	84%	85%
grow and sell sesame, cowpeas and/or groundnuts	46%	68%**
Production and sale of dolo (local beer)	39%	18%**

garden and sell vegetables	32%	39%
Raising Livestock		
Household engages in livestock fattening and raising:		
Chickens or other poultry	99%	98%
Goats or sheep (small ruminants)	91%	92%
Pigs	80%	32%**
Donkeys	74%	70%
Cattle	47%	70%**
Women who personally engage in livestock fattening and raising:		
Chickens or other poultry	24%	32%
Goats or sheep	19%	41%**
Pigs	77%	31%**
She does not engage in livestock fattening	9%	23%**
Household's ability to produce food		
Able to produce, but not enough for home consumption	59%	59%
Able to produce enough for home consumption	35%	63%**
Able to produce surplus	6%	14%**
Unable to produce	0%	0%
Resilience		
Example of a shock that incurred in past month		
Death of family member	37%	18%**
Illness of child	30%	32%
Illness of respondent	29%	39%*
Lost livestock	18%	7%**
Other	13%	11%
How did you respond to the event?		
Used personal or household savings	92%	90%
Sold small livestock	67%	36%**
Borrowed money from a SG	35%	3%**
Borrowed money from family, friends or neighbors	24%	8%**
Worked harder	23%	9%**
Sold grain	11%	16%
Delayed repayments	9%	6%
Reduced food consumption	5%	4%
Sold large livestock	2%	3%
Made purchases on credit	1%	4%
Borrow from a financial institution	0.5%	0%
Households who used multiple mechanisms simultaneously to manage shocks (calculated)	74%	58%**
Considers household to be resilient in terms of ability to cope with shocks in general	58%	52%
No, not resilient	3%	9%
Sometimes/it depends	39%	39%

One asterisk (*) signifies a p-values of <.05 and two asterisks (**) indicate a p-value of less than <.01.

The treatment group women are around 41 years of age and the majority are in polygamous marriages, Gourounsi, Christian, illiterate, food insecure, and live on less than $2.50/day (2005 PPP). They earn about US$7 in a normal week, saving about one-third of that into the next week, giving them the ability to cover basic needs but sometimes struggle. Little access to and low affordability of formal financial services prevents them from using them much aside from receiving remittances, yet they actively save and take loans in their SGs. Most engage in petty commerce to earn money, with

half growing and selling women's crops of sesame, cowpeas, and peanuts. The women actively use zaï and composting to manage crops, and see crops only as a way to feed the family, instead of as a money-making venture. They raise pigs, along with other small animals, and only some have been able to give their livestock better food and care in the past year. Most do not invest loans in their crops. Some have home gardens and can produce food for home consumption, but not enough. They have fairly high knowledge of main nutrition concepts, but suffer from food insecurity and eat a poor quality diet. Views on gender equality are quite mixed, with less than half feeling empowered in their households. Young women in the group are much like the adults, although claim to be more empowered. The women engage in community groups, and would rely on them if a crisis hit their household, but less if one hit their community. Households frequently deal with death and illness of family members as well as lost livestock. Households are constrained and use several coping mechanisms to deal with shocks. Just over half consider themselves resilient and they all believe that internal household communication is an influential driver of resilience.

Annex Table 3C: Sample Indicators Related to Gender Equity and Empowerment

Indicator	Treatment (n=218)	Control (n=211)
Regarding agricultural activity-related decisions		
Believe she has more influence	19%	28%*
Believe she and her husband have about the same influence	35%	17%**
Believe her husband has more influence	46%	55%
Regarding financial service-related decisions		
Believe she has more influence	27%	28%
Believe she and her husband have about the same influence	27%	22%
Believe her husband has more influence	45%	49%
Made final decision on how to cope with recent shock (re shock in past month)		
She did	13%	15%**
Joint decision with husband	41%	23%**
Husband	34%	52%**
Agree or strongly agree that "there is men's work and women's work and the one shouldn't ever do the work of the other"	72%	59%**
Agree or strongly agree that "if a woman works outside the home, her husband should help with child care and household chores"	52%	69%**
Agree or strongly agree that most household decisions should be made by the man	64%	75%*
Cannot leave home without seeking permission	97%	96%
Cannot leave for home for agricultural-related activities without seeking permission	78%	72%
In the last 12 months, were you ever afraid of your husband or partner?		
Most of the time	10%	9%
Sometimes	38%	53%**
Never	52%	39%**
Agree or strongly agree that a woman must tolerate violence in order to maintain stability in the family	38%	74%**
Feel empowered as a woman in her household	45%	66%**
Feel empowered as a woman in her community	23%	25%
Agree or strongly agree with the statement "I feel that I'm a person of worth, at least on an equal plane with others"	99%	96%
Agree or strongly agree with the statement "On the whole, I am satisfied with myself"	99%	97%
Says she is fairly or very satisfied with the life she leads	71%	88%**

One asterisk (*) signifies a p-values of <.05 and two asterisks (**) indicate a p-value of less than <.01.

ENDNOTES

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