Partnership for
Economic Inclusion

ANNUAL REPORT

2025

PARTNERSHIP FOR ECONOMIC INCLUSION

THE WORLD BANK
IBRD • IDA | WORLD BANK GROUP

CONTENTS

Click to navigate Table of Contents

PART I

Impact 03

Impact Dashboard 04
Strengthening Government Capacity 05
Advancing Evidence 07
Fostering Collaboration & Learning 10
Looking Forward 13

PART II

What We Do 14

Influence Model 15
Country Engagement 16
Innovation & Learning 16
Knowledge Generation & Sharing 17
Partnerships & Alliances 17

PART III

Appendixes 19

Results Framework 20
Theory of Change 26
Individual Grant Status 27
Financial Highlights 34

Cover Photo: Matt Hayes / Cornell University

Photo Credit: Humanity & Inclusion

PART I

IMPACT

Impact Dashboard 04
Strengthening Government Capacity 05
Advancing Evidence 07
Fostering Collaboration & Learning 10
Looking Forward 13

Impact Dashboard

RESULTS AREA 1

Supporting Government-led Economic Inclusion

DIRECT FINANCIAL SUPPORT

$5.4 Million invested in direct financial and technical support to 26 programs in 24 countries

FINANCING INFLUENCED

$6.5 Billion in World Bank financing influenced with the potential to influence $20 billion in lending

PARTICIPANTS REACHED

11.4 Million participants and their households reached through PEI's grant-supported programs

RESULTS AREA 2

Promoting Knowledge Generation & Sharing

COUNTRIES ENGAGED

107 countries engaged through a combination of grants, technical and advisory services, and peer-to-peer learning events

IMPACT EVALUATIONS

6 impact evaluations of government-led programs focused on scale and adaptations, provided with design and implementation support

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

2.5 Thousand knowledge products developed and disseminated that have been accessed nearly 370,000 times

RESULTS AREA 3

Ensuring Strong Partnerships & Alliances

FUNDING PARTNERS

6 funding partners directly supporting PEI's work secured and contributing to its success

TECHNICAL PARTNERS

12 leading organizations partnered with PEI to share their experience and know-how

POLICY STAKEHOLDERS

791 policy stakeholders in the economic inclusion field engaged in PEI activities

Note: Figures reported in the Impact Dashboard are cumulative.

Strengthening the capacity of governments to deliver impactful economic inclusion programs at scale

The Partnership for Economic Inclusion's (PEI) mission is built on a commitment to support governments as they adopt and drive large-scale delivery of economic inclusion programs. In Fiscal Year 2025 (from July 2024 – June 2025), PEI engaged 71 governments to adopt, adapt and scale economic inclusion programs through a combination of grants, technical assistance, knowledge-exchange, and advisory services. To date, PEI has invested $5.4 million through 26 grants to 24 countries, which influenced $6.5 billion in World Bank financing to advance the economic empowerment of women and youth, build resilience to climate change, and tailor programs to urban and displaced populations.

Grant-supported, government-led economic inclusion programs are improving access to economic opportunities for more than 11.4 million people. Lessons and tools developed as part of these grants are already empowering governments to deliver more impactful programs with greater cost-effectiveness and reach. Altogether, these investments are helping governments deliver powerful interventions that are creating sustainable opportunities for millions of poor and vulnerable households on a truly global scale.

PEI-funded grants to inform World Bank-financed operations expand to six countries with a deepening focus on climate resilience and gender

PEI provides grants to fund innovations and adaptations that support governments in scaling economic inclusion programs. In FY25, the partnership advanced its direct support to government-led economic inclusion programs through a new round of catalytic grants focused on climate resilience and gender. Six World Bank country teams – Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Senegal, Togo, and Uzbekistan – were awarded $1.18 million in grants linked to nearly $2.3 billion in World Bank financing. These programs have already reached 4 million poor and vulnerable people either directly or through household members in FY25.

Direct engagement continues to shape government policies and practices that promote the scale-up of economic inclusion programs with a stronger focus on gender and climate resilience in several countries:

- In Ethiopia, training sessions equipped field officers to identify gender-specific barriers and opportunities in the market assessment, ensuring that the Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP6) can deliver more climate-resilient and inclusive results. PEI worked closely with government counterparts through coordination meetings across key ministries and World Bank teams supporting the Urban Productive Safety Net and Jobs Project and the Strengthening Ethiopia's Adaptive Safety Net initiative. The government showed strong interest in the ongoing value chain analysis and intends to apply the findings beyond economic inclusion, using them to strengthen public works planning and guide local economic development.
- In Kenya, collaboration with the Gender Innovation Lab is sharpening the gender focus of market assessments by incorporating social norms that shape household decisions and occupational choices to provide actionable guidance to the Second Kenya Social and Economic Inclusion Project (KSEIP2). Evaluation of the first Social and Economic Inclusion Project (KSEIP 1) found the program effective overall but with limited impact in arid and semi-arid lands (ASAL), where climate risks, remoteness, and pastoralist lifestyles posed challenges. These findings informed the launch of a new climate-resilient pilot under KSEIP 2, tailored to the needs of ASAL communities.

SPOTLIGHT: SHARING LESSONS ON CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND ECONOMIC INCLUSION AT THE WORLD BANK AND UNITED NATIONS

In FY25, PEI co-hosted a joint event with the Social Protection and Labor Climate Change Community of Practice, bringing together the Social Protection, Environment, and Development Impact teams to explore the intersection of jobs, economic inclusion, and climate resilience. Country case studies from Ethiopia and Zambia and impact evaluation insights highlighted the potential for integrated, climate-smart programming across World Bank operations.

PEI also participated in a high-level dialogue organized by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), contributing to global discussions on embedding disaster risk reduction in social development systems and policies. And with CGAP, PEI participated ina discussion on Financial Inclusion for Climate Jobs and Livelihoods. The event underscored the role of inclusive financial systems in enabling community-level climate adaptation and job sustainability, featuring practical examples from field programs.

- In Tamil Nadu, India, the World Bank convened a roundtable with civil society organizations, research institutions, and multilateral partners to surface scalable, locally led climate adaptation solutions with an emphasis on grassroots initiatives and rural climate resilience.
- In Senegal, training sessions introduced climate-smart practices into the Yokk Koom Koom Program, equipping participants with new tools for resilience. The sessions also uncovered key knowledge gaps on climate adaptation, which are now being addressed through an updated training curriculum.
- In Togo, the government's endorsement of evaluation findings from the Safety Nets and Basic Services project marked a pivotal shift. The evidence directly shaped the national social registry, embedding a proven targeting approach to address climate shocks while integrating gender-responsive and climate-smart considerations.

Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) also marked the successful completion of the partnership's second round of country grants, focused on COVID-19 recovery:

In September 2024, Madagascar successfully closed out its grant, concluding PEI's second round of country grants focused on COVID-19 recovery. As part of the grant, PEI supported the design and rollout of productive inclusion activities under the Urban Safety Net Program, while completing data collection for three major studies comparing program impacts and approaches. A workshop on lessons from impact evaluations engaged over 30 officials from the Ministry of Population and Social Protection and the Intervention Fund for Development in Madagascar, deepening understanding and focus on program evaluation and quality. The grant also facilitated policy dialogue to secure government commitment to the economic inclusion approach and supported an impact evaluation to generate evidence. Lessons from Madagascar and nine other countries participating in the COVID-19 Recovery round of grants will inform how governments deliver and sustain impactful economic inclusion programs, and a smarter recovery, when responding to emergent and future crises.

The Jobs for the Poor Impact Program will provide structured support to help countries overcome systemic barriers to scale

In April 2025, PEI helped launch the *Jobs for the Poor (J4P) Impact Program,* a flagship World Bank Group Academy initiative that represents the largest coordinated effort yet to support governments in scaling up economic inclusion. Structured as a two-year engagement, J4P is designed to help governments overcome systemic barriers like institutional capacity constraints, program fragmentation, knowledge gaps, and limited financing. Support will be delivered through three primary pathways: coalitions for change, knowledge exchange, and tailored technical assistance.

The first cohort brings together 11 countries – Angola, Bangladesh, Brazil, Cameroon, Dominican Republic, Jordan, Philippines, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Uzbekistan, and Zambia. The program builds on lessons from economic inclusion initiatives that have already delivered transformative results, such as Zambia's Supporting Women's Livelihoods program, which increased business profits for 145,000 women by 80 percent.

Through global knowledge exchanges, study tours, and peer-to-peer learning opportunities, the J4P Impact Program aims to equip governments with the tools and partnerships needed to scale effective interventions. By fostering coalitions of change across government, civil society, and the private sector, the program strengthens countries' ability to design and deliver evidence-based solutions that expand jobs and sustainable livelihoods for millions of poor and vulnerable households.

A young woman tends to goats in Kenya.
Photo credit: David DuChemin/BOMA

Building new evidence and sharing practical guidance to enrich program design and drive global scale

Ensuring that governments and partners can use evidence and actionable guidance to shape design and implementation of economic inclusion programs remains central to PEI's strategy of scaling up economic inclusion programs worldwide. In FY25, PEI advanced its evidence and learning agenda by publishing the flagship *State of Economic Inclusion Report 2024: Pathways to Scale*, expanding knowledge products and platforms like the *In Practice publication series*, Open House webinar series, and *Open-Access Data Portal*, and managing a strategic portfolio of impact evaluations through the Impact Collaborative, a partnership with the World Bank's Development Impact Evaluation (DIME) team. These activities provided insights into the global landscape of actors and economic inclusion interventions, translated lessons from the field into actionable guidance, and contributed to robust evidence through country studies and practical tools. Together, these efforts are enabling governments to integrate proven approaches into their programs, strengthen decision-making, and scale economic inclusion in ways that are both impactful and sustainable.

Economic inclusion programs continue to expand rapidly worldwide but still reach just one in ten people who could benefit

Launched in November 2024, PEI's *State of Economic Inclusion Report: Pathways to Scale* offers the most comprehensive update on the global landscape of economic inclusion programs to date. Drawing on data from 405 programs across 88 countries, the report shows how coverage has expanded from 9.8 million households in 2021 to more than 15 million households today, reaching over 70 million people. Nearly three-quarters of participants are now enrolled in government-led programs, underscoring the central role of governments in advancing scale. At a time when poverty, food insecurity, fragility, and climate risks converge, the State of Economic Inclusion Report demonstrates that economic inclusion programs are moving from pilot initiatives to become a core pillar of social protection and employment strategies worldwide. The report stands as both a benchmark of global progress and a roadmap for translating evidence into action.

Key findings from the report include:

- **High returns on investment:** Evaluations from countries such as Niger, Senegal, and Zambia show significant gains in consumption, business revenues, and women's empowerment, with cost-benefit ratios ranging from 121 to 379 percent.
- **Adaptation to new contexts:** Programs are increasingly tailored to urban settings, fragile environments, and diverse populations, supported by digital delivery systems and area-based approaches that extend reach and efficiency.
- **Integration of cross-cutting priorities:** Two-thirds of programs now incorporate climate-smart practices, while many are embedding women's empowerment and youth employment as central program goals.
- **Greater role for governments:** With government-led programs now covering nearly three-quarters of all participants, governments are shaping the trajectory of scale and driving integration into government social protection strategies.

Download *The State of Economic Inclusion Report 2024: Pathways to Scale* >

Or read the executive summary >>

Fostering economic inclusion is a high-return investment with the potential to transform millions of lives. Looking ahead, the *State of Economic Inclusion Report 2024* provides clear priorities for achieving the next phase of global scale: expand coverage to reach the most marginalized, ensure women and youth can fully benefit, maintain quality as programs scale, embed stronger monitoring and evidence systems, and secure sustainable financing while building resilience to climate and economic shocks. The report provides governments, partners, and funders with a roadmap for smartly and sustainably scaling these impactful programs.

Bolstering PEI's knowledge platforms is meeting growing global demand for actionable data analysis and practical guidance

In FY25, PEI updated and relaunched its open-access Data Portal to coincide with the release of the *State of Economic Inclusion Report 2024*. The update brought a major expansion of content, incorporating new data from the 2023 Landscape Survey that informed the 2024 report. The Data Portal now features refreshed profiles for more than 400 programs across 88 countries, offering the most up-to-date picture of how economic inclusion is being designed and delivered worldwide. Alongside these program-level updates, the Data Portal introduces a new set of 88 country fact sheets, providing policy makers, partners, and researchers easy access to country-specific data on coverage, design, institutional arrangements, and financing. These enhancements make the Data Portal a unique global resource that's providing governments and partners with the evidence base they need to track progress, compare approaches, and draw lessons to inform scale-up.

Sharing practical guidance to mobilize innovative financing is expanding pathways to economic inclusion

PEI publishes the *In Practice* series to capture and share practical lessons that inform the design, financing, and implementation of economic inclusion programs, providing governments, World Bank teams, and partners with timely guidance on emerging challenges and opportunities. In FY 25, PEI advanced the policy and operational debate on how finance underpins effective economic inclusion by publishing two new analyses, in collaboration with its technical partners, exploring different facets of finance and their role in scaling up economic inclusion programs. *Financial Pathways toward Greater Resilience and Economic Inclusion*, provides governments and World Bank teams with practical guidance on how credit, savings, and insurance products can be tailored to the poorest households and integrated with social protection transfers, coaching, and livelihood support. It concludes that collaboration with financial institutions and market facilitators can extend inclusion sustainably and reduce long-term fiscal pressure. In parallel, *Transforming Economic Inclusion: Government Innovations through Outcomes-Based Financing* offers a framework for governments and funders to reorient financing toward measurable results. Drawing on global case studies, it sets out when outcomes-based financing can create value, how risks can be mitigated, and what conditions are needed for scale. By shifting the focus from inputs to outcomes, the paper points to new financial instruments that can mobilize capital, incentivize innovation, and strengthen accountability for results.

The releases of both *In Practice* volumes were accompanied by live Open House webinars featuring the authors and case studies presented by country representatives and other stakeholders. By addressing both household access to finance and innovative models for program financing, the two volumes broaden the policy toolkit for governments and partners seeking to make economic inclusion more effective and sustainable.

Building a new wave of analytical tools and evidence is empowering governments to scale and sustain economic inclusion programs

PEI helps governments strengthen their ability to generate evidence and evaluate the effectiveness of their economic inclusion programs through its Impact Collaborative with the World Bank's Development Impact Evaluation (DIME) team and other technical partners. The Collaborative manages a strategic research portfolio in Cameroon, Ethiopia, Haiti, Malawi, Sierra Leone, and South Sudan, assessing the impact of government-led programs to understand what works and inform national scale-up.

In October 2024, PEI and DIME hosted a technical workshop to showcase the evidence to date, research gaps, and opportunities for future evaluations to capture the impact of government-led economic inclusion programs. Alongside research, PEI provides technical assistance and practical resources to ensure that evaluation findings translate into real improvements. Tools such as the Common Measurement Framework and standardized household survey modules give governments reliable instruments for data collection and analysis, enabling stronger decision-making. By embedding rigorous evaluation into program cycles and promoting adaptive learning, PEI fosters a culture of evidence use that helps governments deliver economic inclusion programs sustainably at scale.

Access all 12 volumes of the *In Practice* publication series >

The In Practice publication series features insights, good practice, and emerging innovations on economic inclusion programs authored by development practitioners, policy makers, and researchers.

Countries Supported by the Impact Collaborative

Haiti

Adaptive Social Protection for Increased Resilience Project (ASPIRE)

The Impact Collaborative team pilots an inclusion package with accessibility for people with disabilities, analyzing impacts on economic activity and mental well-being. The Haiti PEI grant advances by strengthening partner coordination and developing a survey to measure disability well-being in FCV contexts.

Sierra Leone

Productive Social Safety Net and Youth Employment (PSSNYE)

The Impact Collaborative studies layering cash transfers with graduation programs on resilience, food security, assets, savings, and income including on indirect impacts on non-participants. With government partners, the team launched baseline and market surveys, built targeting tools, and set poverty thresholds to prepare delivery and evaluation frameworks.

Cameroon

Adaptive Safety Nets and Economic Inclusion Project

The Impact Collaborative team studies how coaching. training. mentorship. and digital finance enhance urban youth inclusion. They've completed targeting, enrollment, and randomization for 20,000 participants in four cities, successfully implemented Phase 1, and are now laying foundations for Phase 2.

South Sudan

Productive Safety Net for Socioeconomic Opportunities Project (SNSOP)

The Impact Collaborative team evaluates an economic inclusion package that is tailored for a fragile setting, testing different targeting schemes between allowing households to nominate their preferred recipient or directly targeting to women as opposed to the more traditional household targeting. The team advanced its impact evaluation efforts by finalizing survey tools and providing technical guidance to government counterparts.

Ethiopia

Rural Productive Safety Net Project (PSNP) 5

The Impact Collaborative tests whether scaling inclusion programs benefits local economies and pilots life-skills training through government staff and asset transfer modalities (cash grant vs. subsidized credit). The team standardized survey tools, collected follow-up data, and shared findings at workshops and with PSNP stakeholders.

Malawi

Social Support for Resilient Livelihoods Project

The Impact Collaborative tests livelihood packages for resilience-food security, assets, savings, and income diversification-and evaluates a business package for youth. In Malawi, the team published a baseline report, released datasets (1,800+ downloads), and built government capacity for monitoring and evaluation.

Expanded partnership engagements are accelerating global knowledge exchange and collaboration

In FY25, PEI engaged the economic inclusion community of practice with new breadth and depth, convening and connecting with our community through high-profile events, expanded partnerships, and vibrant platforms that promote peer-to-peer learning. The year underscored PEI's role as a trusted facilitator across sectors. By bringing together voices from social protection, labor, agriculture, climate, and financial inclusion, PEI helped break down silos and foster collaboration. PEI welcomed the Government of Sweden (Sida) as a new funding partner, strengthening the coalition of donors committed to scaling economic inclusion through national systems. PEI also secured timely and catalytic support from USAID. Although USAID abruptly exited the partnership, its contribution remains intact, ensuring continuity of the the Impact Collaborative. From global convenings to cutting-edge knowledge platforms, the partnership ensured that knowledge and innovation flowed seamlessly across boundaries, accelerating progress toward inclusive, climate-smart, and gender-responsive programs.

Engaging stakeholders in global convenings is strengthening knowledge exchange and bolstering a community of practice

On November 20, 2024, PEI launched *The State of Economic Inclusion Report 2024: Pathways to Scale,* bringing together more than 300 global leaders, policy makers, and practitioners to discuss how economic inclusion programs can expand while maintaining quality and cost-effectiveness. The event featured insights from Mamta Murthi, World Bank Vice President for the People Vice Presidency, Dean Karlan of Northwestern University, government representatives from Ethiopia and Ghana, and leading implementing partners. The panel explored scaling strategies, the role of partnerships, and innovations to strengthen opportunities for women and youth while addressing climate resilience.

Kigali, Rwanda hosted the *South-South Learning Forum (SSLF) 2025*, an intensive, week-long learning event convened by PEI, the World Bank's Social Protection and Labor Global Practice, and BRAC International in February 2025. Two-hundred and seventy policymakers, practitioners, and partners from nearly 60 countries came together to exchange lessons and experiences on how to take economic inclusion and jobs programs to scale. Blending high-level policy dialogue with practical learning experiences, lessons from 21 countries were presented in seven thematic sessions, while over 60 Global Café roundtables showcased innovations from 26 additional countries. Themes ranged from youth employment and women's empowerment to food security, nutrition, and climate resilience, illustrating the breadth of economic inclusion as a policy tool. Participants also visited Rwandan communities to see firsthand how the country's multisectoral Graduation approach is creating jobs for the poor.

Participants gather for the South-South Learning Forum 2025, hosted in Kigali, Rwanda in February 2025

Deeper engagements with technical partners are strengthening collaboration

In October 2024, PEI brought together its Advisory Council members and Technical Partners for a two-day workshop at World Bank headquarters in Washington, D.C. The convening provided an opportunity to align on PEI's mandate, FY25 priorities, and the future direction of economic inclusion within the World Bank and its partner network. Discussions explored shared objectives between PEI and partners, reviewed data and emerging themes from the *State of Economic Inclusion Report 2024*, and examined donor priorities and policy trends shaping the field.

World Bank task team leaders from Cameroon, Jordan, Liberia, Madagascar, Senegal, and Zambia shared operational insights from government-led economic inclusion programs, offering a closer look at how PEI grant funding and technical support are influencing design and delivery. Sessions also highlighted progress through the PEI Impact Collaborative and discussed the state of evidence on what works, research gaps, and opportunities for future evaluation. To strengthen collaboration further, participants engaged in "World Bank 101" sessions to demystify Bank structures, financing processes, and entry points for partner engagement. The workshop concluded with roundtable discussions on the future of engagement between PEI, the Advisory Council, and Technical Partners, reaffirming PEI's role as a platform for evidence, coordination, and scale.

PEI Technical Partners and Advisory Council members met in October, 2024 for a two-day workshop at the World Bank

SPOTLIGHT: THE 2025 ENGAGEMENT SURVEY

In FY25, PEI conducted its third stakeholder engagement survey to assess how governments, technical partners, funders, World Bank staff, and affiliates perceive the usefulness, influence, and effectiveness of its work. The survey received 222 complete responses, with a slightly higher 24% response rate compared with 22% last year. Key findings include the following:

INFLUENCE

94% of respondents reported that PEI influenced their work, with 77% describing the influence as significant or moderate. Most often, this impact came through evidence, program implementation, and design.

UTILITY

67% of respondents found PEI's activities very or extremely helpful, with the Advisory Council and Steering Committee members rating them highest, at 80%, and technical partners lowest, at 52%.

SATISFACTION

83% of respondents reported high satisfaction across activities. Satisfaction was highest for the relevance of information in the PEI newsletter (98%) and lowest for partner engagement outside of PEI (72%).

SCALE

89% of respondents agreed that PEI learning activities address critical operational questions for scaling economic inclusion, with strongest support from the Advisory Council and Steering Committee members and technical partners.

Looking ahead, youth economic inclusion emerged as the top priority for PEI's work, followed by climate resilience, women's economic empowerment, and fragile and conflict-affected settings.

Open-acccess platforms and peer-to-peer learning events are engaging stakeholders and promoting global knowledge-sharing

PEI's learning events and other platforms and expanded access to knowledge products and evidence provide World Bank teams and governments with the tools and information they need to scale economic inclusion programs more effectively. In FY25, PEI continued to grow and refine its knowledge-sharing platforms from events, such as the Open House webinar series and the Task Team Learning Series, and *In Practice* and *State of Economic Inclusion Report 2024* publications, to online data analysis, thought leadership, and research tools. Major updates to its web-based platforms included enhancements to the Open-Access Data Portal and new capacities to surface popular resources, share thought leadership, and better engage partners, affiliates and World Bank teams.

In FY25, Open House events focused on the role of finance in economic inclusion, from financial inclusion strategies to help connect people in poverty to the tools they need to seize economic opportunity and mitigate risk to innovative outcomes-based financing models to sustain whole programs. More than 350 policy makers and practitioners from national governments, World Bank teams, technical partners, and researchers attended Open House webinars this year. Since it was launched in 2021, recordings of the webinar series have been viewed thousands of times and for more than 500 hours. The partnership's online platforms continue to provide critical resources and opportunities for knowledge exchange. Its Data Portal and InSight Resource Center continue to drive engagement, with knowledge products accessed more than 12,000 times in FY25. To date, more than 2,500 knowledge products on economic inclusion have been disseminated through PEI platforms, which have been visited more than 400,000 times.

SPOTLIGHT: CAPTURING LESSONS ON YOUTH, WOMEN, AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING THROUGH GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES

In FY25, PEI captured and promoted lessons from the South-South Learning Forum (SSLF) through a series of short videos featuring policymakers, practitioners, and development partners. The videos highlighted diverse perspectives on scaling up economic inclusion programming, bringing forward practical insights on what works, where bottlenecks remain, and how peer-to-peer learning accelerates impact. Across the series, themes included advancing equity and opportunities for women, supporting youth economic inclusion, and the role of knowledge sharing to drive results.

PEI also highlighted individual impact stories through short features, including the journey of Fitness Kalumbi in Zimba, Zambia. Through Zambia's Supporting Women's Livelihoods (SWL) program, Fitness has built a better life for herself and her community, illustrating how women in extreme poverty can gain the tools and confidence to pursue sustainable livelihoods. These videos brought global and local perspectives into focus, reinforcing the power of shared learning and storytelling to inspire action.

Looking Forward

Economic inclusion programs are replicable, scalable, and transformative for households and countries alike. PEI has built the infrastructure, insights, and alliances to turn the vision of an economically inclusive world into reality. The next target is ambitious—reaching 100 million people through government-led programs. This aligns directly with the World Bank's broader goal of extending social protection and employment support to 500 million people by 2030, half of them women.

Two thematic priorities will continue to guide this next phase. Women's economic empowerment remains central, with new research underway to capture links between economic inclusion and non-economic outcomes such as health, agency, and decision-making. Operational frameworks and guidance are being updated so program design delivers lasting gains for women. Climate resilience is the second priority. Here PEI will strengthen the design, delivery, and evidence base of climate-smart programs, working across social protection, agriculture, and natural resource systems to help the poorest and most climate-vulnerable populations adapt and thrive.

To achieve these goals, PEI will act on three fronts. It will deepen collaboration with the World Bank's Development Impact Evaluation (DIME) team to build evidence of impact and cost-effectiveness, testing program adaptations that respond to food insecurity, climate shocks, gender inequality, and fragility. It will leverage knowledge for impact through the J4P impact program, technical workshops, and global platforms that provide governments with real-time support and peer learning. And it will accelerate adoption of innovations by connecting NGO experimentation with government delivery, advancing tools such as digital payment systems and AI-powered coaching.

Reaching 100 million people will demand bold action, sharper investments, and stronger partnerships. By combining evidence, knowledge, and innovation, PEI is helping governments to deliver economic inclusion programs that expand opportunity, create jobs, and provide a sustainable pathway out of poverty at scale.

Woman selling at a market in Burkina Faso.
Photo credit: Trickle Up

Photo Credit: Mark Littman/Trickle Up

PART II

WHAT WE DO

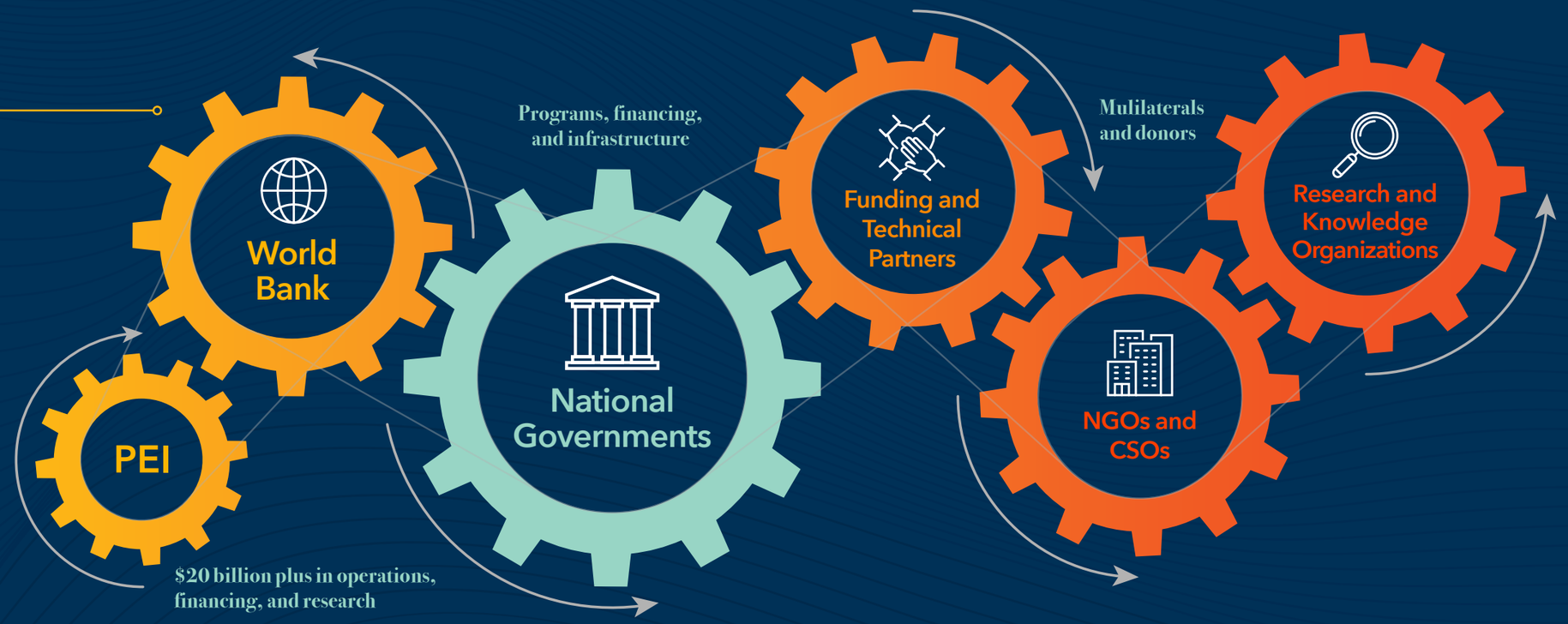
Influence Model 15
Country Engagement 16
Innovation & Learning 16
Knowledge Generation & Sharing 17
Partnerships & Alliances 17

Influence Model

How PEI is Tipping the Scale

PEI addresses the central challenge in scaling economic inclusion programs by supporting evidence-based, multidimensional interventions delivered through government systems with the involvement of a wide range of stakeholders. Hosted by the World Bank's Social Protection and Jobs Global Practice and encompassing a diverse set of funding and technical partners, PEI is positioned to leverage cross-sectoral expertise and relationships with governments, and influence World Bank development financing to advance economic inclusion of vulnerable people in extreme poverty.

PEI works with a diverse range of stakeholders to support evidence-based, multidimensional interventions delivered through government systems.



Country Engagement

Strengthening the capacity of governments to design and adapt scalable programs that directly benefit extremely poor and vulnerable people is central to PEI's work. The partnership collaborates with a global network of practitioners, policy makers, development partners, and research organizations and links economic inclusion programs to a wide portfolio of World Bank investments in government programs. It supports innovative economic inclusion programs led by governments through grants and technical assistance. Grants support diagnostics, including data collection and analysis, just-in-time technical assistance, identification of good practices, and in-country coordination with development partners. PEI also provides real-time technical support on program design and implementation to governments, World Bank staff, and development partners; peer review services; and information sharing, including policy dialogues with government ministries and other stakeholders.

Innovation and Learning

PEI collaborates with national and international stakeholders to collect, generate, and share evidence on how economic inclusion programs work in a broad range of settings. Insights help determine how such programs can be made more effective and sustainable on a large scale while reflecting local conditions.

Research conducted over the past decade shows that economic inclusion programs help strengthen resilience and expand opportunities for people living in poverty and vulnerability, which ultimately leads to increases in their income and assets and improves their well-being. A growing body of evidence also confirms that economic inclusion programs work in various settings and with different population groups. PEI shares these and other lessons through peer-to-peer learning events, including Country Innovation Exchanges, where government officials come together to share experiences and good practices in adapting and scaling up programs.

The partnership's collaboration with the World Bank's Development Impact Evaluation team is supporting a new generation of innovation and learning to support adaptation, innovation, and scale-up of government-led programs within partner countries and globally. Its open-access data portal lets users search country-level data on economic inclusion programs, explore global trends, and submit data on new programs and their costs, helping ensure that the portal reflects the latest information.

Country Innovation Exchanges

A series of exchanges on ground-level innovations on thematic areas: deep-dives on cross-cutting priorities such as gender, urban, displacement, etc.

Impact Evaluation Collaborative

A joint PEI-DIME initiative that aims to enhance the effectiveness of the next generation of government-led economic inclusion programs by building government capacity and testing ways to improve their design and implementation at scale

Data Portal

A searchable portal on program design, coverage, and institutional arrangements

Knowledge Generation and Sharing

At the heart of PEI's mission is collecting, creating, and sharing crucial knowledge and global resources on economic inclusion programs. It is dedicated to fostering internal knowledge exchange and building strong connections with external partners to advance economic inclusion across the globe. The partnership does not just produce and share valuable resources; it actively convenes a community of practice focused on scaling effective economic inclusion strategies for people living in extreme poverty. PEI is committed to supporting development researchers, practitioners, and policy makers through innovative platforms such as the InSight Resource Center and the In Practice and In Focus publication series. Peer-to-peer exchanges and public forums such as the PEI Open House webinar series foster advance knowledge exchange and collaboration. Through these initiatives, PEI provides governments and stakeholders with the latest insights and practical guidance on what works (and what does not) in designing and implementing successful economic inclusion programs around the world.

PEI's In Practice Publication Series

PEI's in-house publication series engaging partners and World Bank teams to publish diagnostic studies, operational research, and policy notes

PEI InSight: A Resource Center

PEI's global knowledge resource center offering partners and World Bank Teams the opportunity to share publications, research, operational guides, and other resources in an open-access global knowledge platform

Open House Webinar Series

Ongoing webinar series for a broad audience on policy, programming, and thematic areas of interest

Partnerships and Alliances

Scaling up economic inclusion programs is a monumental and intricate task that requires the collective efforts of a diverse array of organizations. PEI's strength lies in its ability to harness global expertise and galvanize collaborative action through a dynamic partnership of key stakeholders. Its network includes a rich mix of funding and technical partners—from governments and UN agencies to NGOs, service providers, and research and advocacy organizations.

The partnership represents a new model for the World Bank, merging a focus on global operations with national governments and a strong commitment to diverse stakeholder collaboration. PEI's partners are actively involved in driving joint initiatives, which include producing essential knowledge resources and fostering on-the-ground collaborations. Through efforts such as the PEI Open House Series, Country Innovation Exchanges, the In Practice publication series, and the InSight repository of tools and resources, PEI's technical partners contribute to creating high-quality exchanges and public goods that push forward policy, practice, and evidence on economic inclusion.

Partners

BOMA

brac

care

CONCERN worldwide

Co Impact

FAO FIAT PANIS

Fundación Capital

german cooperation DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT

giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

ideas 42

ipa Innovations for Poverty Action

Irish Aid Rialtas na hÉireann Government of Ireland

UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency

Sverige

trickleup

Village Enterprise

World Vision

APPENDIXES

Photo Credit: Village Enterprise

Results Framework

#	Indicator	Unit	Breakdown	Baseline Value	FY26 Target	Cumulative Value (since FY22)	Value in Current Reporting Period (FY25)
IMPACT 1: Extremely poor and vulnerable households are able to improve their lives by participating in economic inclusion programs implemented through government systems.							
1	Evidence of positive impacts in beneficiaries' wellbeing achieved by government economic inclusion programs	Evaluations	–	A review of evaluations of 80 programs in 37 countries shows that a broad range of economic inclusion programs have shown promising and potentially sustained impact on a wide range of outcomes. Most of these evaluations are from programs at nascent stage and are nongovernment-led	A review of a larger body of impact evaluations shows economic inclusion programs implemented at scale through government systems result in improvements in beneficiaries' wellbeing, including by increasing income, and assets, and improving women's economic empowerment (WEE)	-	A global review covering 86 programs in 41 countries included 53 completed evaluations of government-led economic inclusion programs. Of these, 48 reported significant positive impacts on beneficiary wellbeing, ranging from increased income, assets, and women's economic empowerment.
IMPACT 2: Government systems are strengthened through improved program delivery, fiscal, and policy coherence.							
2	Evidence of increased coordination and cost optimization within government structures	Countries	–	Not available	Evidence found in at least 5 countries	-	Due in FY26[1]
LONG-TERM OUTCOME: Governments implement effective economic inclusion programs at scale for extremely poor and vulnerable populations.							
3	Number of beneficiary households in government economic inclusion programs	Households	Sector at large	18,600,000	26,000,000	15,996,584	11,302,072[2]
		Individuals	Sector at large	85,900,000	120,000,000	72,129,192	52,237,444
		Households	PEI grantees	Not available	–	2,379,450	1,574,665
		Individuals	PEI grantees	Not available	–	11,432,434	4,698,654

1 This indicator will be comprehensively assessed through the PEI MTDF evaluation in FY26.
2 This is likely an underestimation, as it is based on programs that completed the survey. All data is self-reported and captured through PEI's 2023 Landscape Survey. Internal reports were used for some PEI grantees where data was unavailable.

#	Indicator	Unit	Breakdown	Baseline Value	FY26 Target	Cumulative Value (since FY22)	Value in Current Reporting Period (FY25)
4	Percentage of government programs serving predominantly women and advancing WEE	%	Sector at large	11%	At least 50%	35%	35%
			PEI grantees	Not available	–	100%	100%
5	Percentage of government programs serving the extreme poor and vulnerable	%	Sector at large	60%	80%	49%	49%
			PEI grantees	Not available	–	64%	64%
6	Number and percentage of governments with economic inclusion programming at scale	No.	Sector at large	16 government programs	At least 60 government programs	68	68[3]
		%		15% of all government programs	30% of all government programs	39%	39[3]
		No.	PEI grantees	Not available	–	5	5[3]
		%		Not available	–	33%	33%[3]
7	Number and percentage of government economic inclusion programs that report positive sustained impacts on income, assets, and WEE	No.	–	29 government programs	65 government programs	53	53
		%	–	85% of government programs with an impact evaluation	90% of government programs with an impact evaluation	91%	91%[4]
INTERMEDIATE OUTCOME 1: Governments build their capacity to implement economic inclusion programs at scale.							
8	Number of governments participating in PEI's learning events	No.	Sector at large	Not available	At least 40 governments	107	71[5]
			PEI grantees	Not available	–	24	6[5]
9	Percentage of governments that report having scaled up in the past 12 months	%	Sector at large	75%	85%	74%	74%[3]
			PEI grantees	Not available	–	67%	67%[6]

3 Based on results from 2023 Landscape Survey.
4 This indicator captures only completed studies, excluding ongoing or forthcoming evaluations. Each study is complex and often reports on a broad set of indicators, not all of which may be reflected here.
5 This indicator captures the number of unique countries from which government officials have participated in PEI events.
6 Data on PEI grantees is available for 15 programs that completed the 2023 Landscape Survey.

#	Indicator	Unit	Breakdown	Baseline Value	FY26 Target	Cumulative Value (since FY22)	Value in Current Reporting Period (FY25)
INTERMEDIATE OUTCOME 2: Governments and partners develop and incorporate the relevant evidence on design and implementation into their economic inclusion programs, as best fits their contexts.							
10	Number of visits to and pageviews of PEI's web-based knowledge-sharing platforms	No.	Total visits (all platforms)	0	500,000	287,583	23,119
			Total website visits	0	80,000	98,394	15,388
			Total Insight Pageviews	0	25,000	6,416	2,002
			Total Data Portal pageviews	0	25,000	21,323	5,341
			Total newsletter subscribers	0	10,000	4,572	388
11	Number of downloads, references or citations, and external shares (including retweets and social media shares)	No.	Downloads	0	>100,000	66,501	21,945
			References/citations	0	>100	116	34
			External shares	NA	>5,000	666	277
12	Percentage of economic inclusion programs that have research activities planned or underway to inform their economic inclusion programming	%	Sector at large	79%	At least 90%	72%	72%[7]
			PEI grantees	Not available	–	93%	93%[7]
13	Percentage of economic inclusion programs or organizations whose policy or programming has shifted in response to research or evidence shared by PEI	%	Sector at large	Not available	At least 75%	94%	94%[8]
			PEI grantees	Not available	–	100%	100%[8]

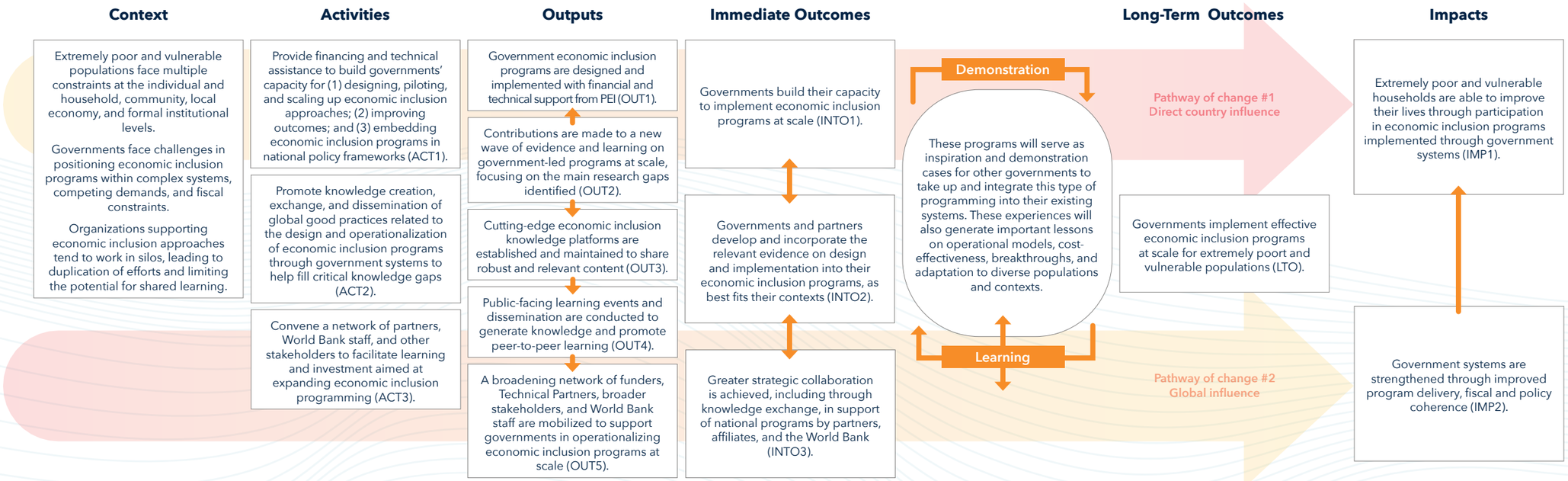
7 Based on results from 2023 Landscape Survey.
8 This data is based on closing reports and annual reports from grantees and includes both quantitative and qualitative studies.

#	Indicator	Unit	Breakdown	Baseline Value	FY26 Target	Cumulative Value (since FY22)	Value in Current Reporting Period (FY25)
INTERMEDIATE OUTCOME 3: Greater strategic collaboration is achieved, including through knowledge exchange, in support of national programs by partners, affiliates, and the World Bank.							
14	Number of references to economic inclusion programming in World Bank leadership statements	No.	–	0	20	42	10
15	Number of strategic collaborations between PEI and Technical Partners, affiliates, or other stakeholder organizations in the broader economic inclusion ecosystem	No.	–	10	100	154	44
16	Evidence that country governments and other actors, including the World Bank, affiliates, and wider stakeholders, are increasingly collaborating in support of economic inclusion interventions and PEI's role in motivating them	No.	–	0	40	17	3
OUTPUT 1: Government economic inclusion programs are designed and implemented with financial and technical support from PEI.							
17	Number of government programs receiving intensive support from PEI (total), by status of the grant (active/completed), and with a systematic gender component	No.	Total active/complete	10	40 grants active or completed…	26	26
			With a systematic gender component	2	…and at least half with a systematic gender component.	16	16
			Active	10	–	6	6
			Closed	0	–	20	20
18	Number of government programs receiving light-touch support from PEI team	No.	Total	12	40	69	33
			Peer review	Not available	–	25	5
			Helpdesk support	Not available	–	55	28
			Country presentations	Not available	–	15	6
19	Percentage of government officials receiving support by PEI that state that PEI's support has been useful to their work on economic inclusion	%	–	0	At least 75%	83%	83%

#	Indicator	Unit	Breakdown	Baseline Value	FY26 Target	Cumulative Value (since FY22)	Value in Current Reporting Period (FY25)
OUTPUT 2: Contributions are made to a new wave of evidence and learning on government-led programs at scale, focusing on the main research gaps identified.							
20	Number of studies funded or commissioned by PEI completed	No.	Total	3	40	82	7
			Country	Not available	–	53	4
			Global	Not available	–	29	3
21	Percentage of users reporting that PEI's studies help fill in knowledge gaps and respond to critical operational questions	%	–	0	At least 75%	89%	89%
OUTPUT 3: Cutting-edge economic inclusion knowledge platforms are established and maintained to share robust and relevant content.							
22	Website established and maintained	Rating	–	3	5	5	5
23	Open-Access Data Portal established and maintained	Rating	–	3	5	5	5
24	Online platform to capture and share knowledge (PEI Insight Resource Center) established and maintained	Rating	–	1	5	3	3
OUTPUT 4: Public-facing learning events and dissemination are conducted to generate knowledge and promote peer-to-peer learning.							
25	Number of peer-to-peer knowledge exchange events organized, by type of event	No.	–	3	100	81	14
26	Number of knowledge products disseminated through PEI platforms	No.	Total	3	Over 400	2,795	599
			Data Portal	Not available	–	219	219
			Insight	Not available	–	439	0
			Website	Not available	–	95	658
			Newsletter	Not available	–	209	49
			Google Drive	Not available	–	115	-
OUTPUT 5: A broadening network of funders, Technical Partners, broader stakeholders, and World Bank staff are mobilized to support governments in operationalizing economic inclusion programs at scale.							

#	Indicator	Unit	Breakdown	Baseline Value	FY26 Target	Cumulative Value (since FY22)	Value in Current Reporting Period (FY25)
27	Number of funders, Technical Partners, broader economic inclusion stakeholders, and World Bank Global Practices engaged in PEI activities	No.	Total	10	175	791	273
			Funders (excluding Technical Partners)	Not available	–	6	5
			Technical Partners	Not available	–	12	12
			Broader economic inclusion stakeholders	Not available	–	726	216
			World Bank Global Practices	Not available	–	47	40
28	Percentage of Technical Partners engaged in PEI activities in current fiscal year	%	–	0	100%	85%	85%
29	Percentage of funders, Technical Partners, and World Bank staff who report PEI's work is useful to their work	%		0	at least 75%	67%	67%

Theory of Change



Key Assumptions

- Governments and World Bank operational teams are aware of PEI financing and technical support opportunities and request such support.
- Partners, affiliates, and World Bank agree on way forward (scale through government-led programs).
- Development policy and the strategies of control actors such as the World Bank and wider stakeholders support the shift toward building on systems to drive delivery of economic inclusion programs at scale.
- Existing economic inclusion government programs will serve as demonstration cases for other governments to take up and integrate into their programming and systems.
- Country contexts largely driven by evolving global megatrends and a stengthened body of evidence will underpin decisions by governments to scale up economic inclusion programs.
- A comprehensive suite of interventions has a greater and more sustained impact on income, assets, and wellbeing relative to stand-alone interventions.
- Economic inclusion programs, when integrated in government delivery systems, push for in-country coordination.

Individual Grant Status

Country	Grant Name	Grant Objectives	Innovations	Grant Amount	Direct participants (no. of households)[1]	Status
Inaugural or Foundational Grantees						
Afghanistan	Evidence-based approach to ensuring success of economic inclusion programs in FCV settings	Strengthen capacity in evidence-based decision making for economic inclusion interventions in FCV settings through a combination of rigorous co-produced operational research with program implementers and structured support to help implementing partners translate this research into operational decisions.	WEE, Displaced	$180,000	**12,698 households** in the Targeting the Ultra-Poor Pilot program under the Afghanistan Access to Finance program	**CLOSED** The grant-funded activities have helped produce significant additional research evaluating the impact of graduation programs in settings of multiple concurrent crises (pandemic, droughts, escalating violence). The research included an impact evaluation exploring seasonal dynamics and long-term impacts of graduation programs in fragile settings. The team also developed a women's empowerment research framework to measure gender equality and women's empowerment in the Targeting the Ultra-Poor context. The experience gained by the team will be used to develop and disseminate a toolkit for data collecting in FCV settings.
Bangladesh	Developing an Economic Inclusion Program through Social Safety Net Programs	Design a sustainable economic inclusion program owned and implemented by the Government of Bangladesh to help young adults in poor households improve their livelihoods.	WEE, Urban, Youth, Climate	$178,000	**87,754 households** in the economic inclusion component of the Recovery and Advancement of Informal Sector Employment (RAISE) project	**CLOSED** The World Bank team, with PEI support, conducted a series of institutional and technical capacity assessments for government partners. Through direct support for the design of the RAISE Program, the grant engaged three government entities: PKSF (Bangladesh's wholesale lending agency), the Local Government Division, and the Department of Social Services. Each of them was responsible to roll out complementary productive inclusion schemes, which are now incorporated under RAISE.
Egypt	Technical Assistance for Economic Inclusion/ Empowerment Pilot	Complement the efficient and effective cash transfer program by introducing a new pilot program to support the Government of Egypt to improve access to economic opportunities and pilot different productive inclusion models through wage and self-employment.	WEE, Urban, Youth	$179,867	**26,321 households** in the FORSA pilot	**CLOSED** The grant activities supported an economic inclusion pilot (FORSA). The team conducted a series of diagnostic activities including a stocktaking exercise, a profiling analysis, and a market assessment, which informed the design of the pilot. The team also developed a Partnership Strategy document to guide stakeholder engagement and a Business Process Review to document the pilot's processes for the development of a future Management Information Systems (MIS) module. PEI also supported the Government in developing a behavioral change training module. Finally, outcomes from a baseline survey will inform the scale-up of economic inclusion activities after grant completion.

1 EI grant-funded activities are typically advisory in nature. The participant numbers reported throughout refer to the number of households covered by the economic inclusion activities of the World Bank-financed project, which has received grant funding and advisory support from PEI.

Country	Grant Name	Grant Objectives	Innovations	Grant Amount	Direct participants (no. of households)[1]	Status
Iraq	Capacity Building for Design of Economic Inclusion	To create more knowledge and awareness among the Iraqi counterparts on the concept of economic inclusion programs and to develop together with the Ministry a design for an economic inclusion pilot in Iraq.	Urban	$178,800	**2,200 households** are expected to participate in the Protecting and Promoting Human Capital pilot	CLOSED The grant helped with the integration of economic inclusion into the national agenda in Iraq, advancing economic inclusion programming in the country. In close collaboration with the government, the World Bank team designed Iraq's first economic inclusion pilot. Grant activities enabled knowledge-sharing and the production of studies to inform the design of the pilot intervention, including a stocktaking of best practices on economic inclusion. The grant helped produce a local assessment and stakeholders mapping to inform the intervention rollout, and the development of an impact evaluation proposal.
Madagascar (Southern)	Support for Resilient Livelihoods in the South of Madagascar	Support the Government of Madagascar in developing diagnostics, reviews, and evidence-based policies to shape the design and targeting of a component on resilient livelihoods under the 'Support to Resilient Livelihoods in the South of Madagascar (MIONJO)' Project.	Urban	$180,000	**30,560 households** in the economic inclusion component of the MIONJO project	CLOSED The grant contributed to shaping the design and targeting of an economic inclusion intervention in the south of Madagascar. It also supported the capacity building of government staff and NGO implementing agencies. Under the grant, international and local consultants facilitated learning activities to build an incremental understanding of the graduation approach among government staff and country counterparts. The grant enabled the development of local assessments and programming tools: a review of existing livelihood support schemes in the country, a households' drought impact assessment to identify household livelihood strategies and integrate them into the project design,an operational manual and a targeting plan to guide the implementation of the economic inclusion intervention.
Malawi	Developing Innovative Economic Inclusion Programming for Ultra-Poor Households	Provide technical and operational support to the Government of Malawi to build economic inclusion implementation capacity and enhance the design of livelihoods packages for extremely poor households benefiting from Social Cash Transfer and Public Works Programs.	Climate, Urban	$180,000	**356,108 households** in the Social Support for Resilient Livelihoods Project (SSRLP)	CLOSED The grant has strengthened the government's capacity to implement improved designs of the economic inclusion intervention. The grant fostered the growth and scaling up of livelihood support interventions through additional resources contemplated for SSRLP as part of crisis response. Also, the grant facilitated a collaborative in-country impact evaluation design of the economic inclusion intervention to generate rigorous evidence for further scale up. Technical assistance supported knowledge products that significantly shaped an efficient delivery approach for the intervention. The products range from an assessment of the livelihoods training curriculum, M&E systems, and functionality of the MIS, to the development of livelihood Training of Trainers Manual and the review of the graduation operational guidelines. The production of those critical tools was followed by workshops to guarantee effective implementation.
Mozambique	Operational Options for Poor Farmers' Economic Inclusion	To design operational options for the economic inclusion of poor subsistence farmers who are social protection beneficiaries (Pequenos Agricultores) into financially sustainable value chains.	Climate, Displaced	$180,000	**380,042 households** in the Agriculture and Natural Resources Landscape Management Project	CLOSED The grant-funded technical assistance produced a target population assessment and a market linkages study of agricultural opportunities, with a focus on climate-resilient crops, to inform the economic inclusion pilot. The World Bank and Government teams engaged in technical meetings through the Social Protection and Agriculture agencies to harmonize interventions towards a more effective inclusion of poor and vulnerable households in rural and peri-urban areas in targeted provinces. The design of these joint interventions includes the development of horticulture for poor and vulnerable households in peri-urban areas to integrate them with small emerging commercial farmers while focusing on food security.

Country	Grant Name	Grant Objectives	Innovations	Grant Amount	Direct participants (no. of households)[1]	Status
Panama	Panama Productive Inclusion Program in Indigenous Territories	Strengthen the institutional capacity of the Ministry of Social Development (MIDES) in Panama to implement and improve the Cohesion Social Program, which seeks to sustainably increase the income among the poor indigenous population in Panama.	WEE, Urban	$240,000	**5,845 households** in the Cohesion Social program pilot	CLOSED The grant-funded activities expanded the institutional capacity of MIDES to implement economic inclusion programs. The grant supported the design and implementation of an impact evaluation, which will facilitate the adoption of future economic inclusion programming in Panama. Also, during the COVID-19 pandemic, the grant supported the implementation of contingency plans and a digital real-time monitoring system allowing the continuity of the intervention.
Uzbekistan	Promoting Entrepreneurial Mindset and Skills in Uzbekistan	Inform the development and implementation of an intervention focused on entrepreneurship to foster the economic inclusion of vulnerable groups (ultra-poor and specific vulnerable groups such as youth and women).	Urban	$180,000	**15,206 households** in the Strengthening the Social Protection System Project	CLOSED The grant contributed to the development and implementation of an entrepreneurship intervention to foster the economic inclusion of vulnerable groups in the country. The grant-funded activities helped to develop local evidence to customize the design of the intervention. A living inventory of entrepreneurship programs was produced and used to improve referrals of beneficiaries. Likewise, an entrepreneur survey helped to shape the training curricula of the program. With support from PEI, the World Bank team supported the Government in the development of training manuals and tools to expand skills for women empowerment and financial literacy tailored to the beneficiaries' needs.
Zambia	Developing Sustainable Livelihoods through Value Chain Linkages	Provide technical and operational support to Government of the Republic of Zambia to develop operational techniques to enable growth of women-led household and micro enterprises in poor communities to move from 'survival mode' to 'opportunity mode' through upstream value chain linkages.	WEE, Urban	$180,000	**144,297 households** in the Supporting Women's Livelihood (SWL) component of the Girls Education and Women's Empowerment and Livelihood (GEWEL) Project	CLOSED The grant enabled the development of assessments and operational guidelines to establish value chain linkages for beneficiaries of the Supporting Women's Livelihood (SWL) component (for example, a summary of Value Chain Business Models and an Operational Manual to guide the implementation of the economic inclusion intervention). Also, the World Bank team facilitated linkages between the GEWEL and Zambia Agribusiness and Trade Project, two economic inclusion-related interventions that had not traditionally worked together, expanding their joint capacity to boost economic growth for women's led household and micro-enterprises.
COVID-19 Recovery - Round 2 Grantees						
Angola	Empowering Angolan Women	Inform the design of economic inclusion interventions to empower poor young Angolan women in urban and peri-urban areas.	WEE, Urban, Youth	$250,000	**53,722 households** in the economic inclusion component of the Strengthening the National Social Protection System Project	CLOSED The team completed a comprehensive assessment of the constraints affecting women and girls receiving cash transfers in urban and peri-urban areas and an assessment of the enabling environment for job creation among young women. The findings informed the design of gender-sensitive interventions in the Kwenda program and were incorporated in two additional World Bank operations: Enhancing the Social Protection System for Human Capital and Resilience Project (P181495) and Angola Youth Employment and Opportunities Project (P505158).

Country	Grant Name	Grant Objectives	Innovations	Grant Amount	Direct participants (no. of households)[1]	Status
Benin	Enhancing Youth Economic Inclusion and Women's Empowerment	Support the government of Benin (i) to increase learning on women's empowerment to advance the economic inclusion agenda and (ii) to introduce gender-responsive innovations in its national economic inclusion program as well as strengthen its capacities to deliver the Azôli program.	WEE, Urban, Youth, Climate	$250,000	**8,618 households** in the Benin Youth Inclusion Project	**CLOSED** The grant supported two qualitative studies, one that identified women's constraints to accessing markets and wage employment, and another that assessed the impact of the Benin Youth Employment Project (P132667). The results will inform the additional financing of the Benin Youth Inclusion Project (P181474). The grant also supported technical assistance on the design of a gender-responsive Azôli economic inclusion program that provides childcare services. Other grant-financed activities that were completed include a process evaluation of the Azôli program, capacity-building of government employment agents, and technical support to develop operational tools, a gender plan, and an M&E system for the program.
Cameroon	Innovations for the Economic Inclusion of Urban Youth in the COVID-19 Context	Support the development of innovations for the economic inclusion of young informal sector workers in urban areas of Cameroon. With a focus on the COVID-19 context, the Grant aims to contribute to current efforts to improve youths' income-generating capacity and their resilience to shocks.	WEE, Urban, Youth	$250,000	**15,000 households** are participating in the Cameroon Social Safety Nets Project	**CLOSED** The grant supported several activities that informed the design of a youth economic inclusion sub-component of the Adaptive Safety Nets and Economic Inclusion Project (P175363). This includes a feasibility assessment of an innovative targeting system using mobile phone data to identify beneficiaries. Based on the study results, the government is planning to develop a predictive model using telecom data. The team also completed a mapping exercise of digital financial service providers, an analysis of digital savings options, and a market assessment to identify youth entrepreneurship opportunities in five urban areas.
Djibouti	Djibouti Productive Inclusion Program	Support the technical and institutional capacity of the Ministry of Solidarity and Social Affairs in developing and launching implementation of a new productive inclusion program.	Youth	$210,000	**6,000 households,** in the economic inclusion component of the Integrated Cash Transfer and Human Capital Project and the Emergency Crisis Project	**CLOSED** Despite a delayed start due to overlapping crises affecting the country, the World Bank team completed all grant activities. The team completed a stocktaking report that focused on lessons from previous economic inclusion initiatives, socioeconomic analysis of the informal sector, and COVID-19 implications for economic inclusion activities in Djibouti. The mapping report was instrumental in informing the economic inclusion pilot under the Integrated Cash Transfer and Human Capital Project. The grant also supported technical assistance on the operationalization of an economic inclusion module in the MIS used by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Solidarity and the development of an initial framework and roadmap for a graduation strategy. The grant enabled the team to engage in dialogue with policy makers which informed the inclusion of economic empowerment as a key pillar in Djibouti's new social protection strategy for 2023 to 2027.
Democratic Republic of Congo	Economic Inclusion for Refugees Pilot	Inform the design of an economic inclusion program that responds to the specific needs and vulnerabilities of refugees that are STEP (DRC Eastern Recovery Project) beneficiaries.	WEE, Displaced, Climate	$250,000	**167,680 households** in the economic inclusion component of the DRC Eastern Recovery Project	**CLOSED** Despite delays due to a change in the implementing agency for the STEP project, the World Bank team completed all grant activities. The grant supported an analysis of best practices for integrating displaced populations into economic inclusion programs, and the results were shared with the government to inform the design of three pilots to support refugees and internally displaced people in DRC. The World Bank team also developed an operations manual on implementing economic inclusion for refugees and training materials to build the capacity of the government to guide beneficiaries with enterprise management, financial inclusion, nutrition behavior change, and addressing gender-based violence.

Country	Grant Name	Grant Objectives	Innovations	Grant Amount	Direct participants (no. of households)[1]	Status
Fiji	Scaling Up Gender-Sensitive Economic Inclusion Programs for Green, Resilient, and Inclusive Development in Fiji	Carry out analytical and advisory activities to inform the Government of Fiji's efforts in recovering from COVID-19 by scaling up gender-sensitive economic inclusion programs for green, resilient and inclusive development in Fiji.	Climate, WEE	$250,000	**180 households** in the Jobs for Nature program received training informed by the grant	**CLOSED** After delays due to national elections in 2022, the grant-funded activities were completed with a few changes. The grant supported a diagnostic report for the Welfare Graduation Program to inform the economic inclusion framework and strategy. Although the World Bank team successfully contracted a firm to develop training materials on financial literacy and skills development, the piloting phase of the materials could not proceed due to limited engagement from the ministry, resulting in the activity remaining incomplete. However, the team was able to redirect some of the grant to support a community-based green public works program called Jobs for Nature 2.0 and funded a study to inform the choice of skills training and identify options for digital public works modalities to enhance the program's gender impact. Unutilized funds were returned to PEI.
Ghana	Facilitating the Expansion of Productive Inclusion Activities to Urban Areas of Ghana	Carry out analytical and advisory activities to inform the government of Ghana's expansion of Productive Inclusion activities to urban areas.	Climate, Urban	$250,000	**10,000 households** expected to participate in the urban economic inclusion component of the Ghana Productive Safety Net Project 2	**CLOSED** The grant supported a needs assessment conducted in target urban areas to identify constraints among potential beneficiaries of the Complementary Livelihood and Asset Support Scheme (CLASS). The assessment informed the development of training content on business management and life skills and a market access handbook that provides guidance on how to establish market linkages. The World Bank team also conducted a training of trainers workshop to equip the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development staff with the skills to guide beneficiaries.
Indonesia	Urban Regeneration and Economic Inclusion in Indonesia	Develop methodologies and tools to support the integration of appropriate economic inclusion strategies into the design and implementation of urban regeneration strategies.	Climate, Urban	$180,000	Not applicable	**DROPPED** Initially, activities under the grant largely focused on developing a strong engagement strategy with the government and deepening country-level understanding of how an economic inclusion approach could strengthen the government's urban integrated regeneration approach.However, due to changes in government priorities, the pipeline urban project that the grant activities were intended to support did not come to fruition. The majority of the funds were returned to PEI, and the initial activities that were carried out were documented.
Madagascar	Economic Inclusion Pilot in Urban Areas	To provide access to productive activities and economic inclusion to extremely poor households for the first time in urban areas of Madagascar following COVID-19.	Climate	$250,000	**30,544 households** in the Social Safety Net Project receiving different packages of economic inclusion support	**CLOSED** The grant supported technical assistance to inform the design and implementation of productive inclusion activities under the Urban Safety Net Program, drawing on global best practices. The grant also facilitated policy dialogue to secure government commitment to the economic inclusion approach and supported an impact evaluation to generate evidence. Lessons from Madagascar and nine other countries in the COVID-19 recovery round of grants are influencing how governments design and sustain impactful economic inclusion programs, while ensuring effective recovery in response to future crises.

Country	Grant Name	Grant Objectives	Innovations	Grant Amount	Direct participants (no. of households)[1]	Status
Uganda	Assessing Economic Inclusion Interventions in Northern Uganda	Assess the effectiveness of the models for economic inclusion interventions to increase income, assets and build resilience among the extremely poor and vulnerable households in Northern Uganda.	WEE	$250,000	**132,838 households** in the Third Northern Uganda Social Action Fund (NUSAF 3)	CLOSED The World Bank team completed a diagnostic that included a process evaluation of the economic inclusion component under NUSAF 3, as well as an assessment of targeting, impact, and cost-effectiveness, and its scalability prospects. The diagnostic and consultation workshops with the Office of the Prime Minister and several ministries led to a significant increase in investment in the economic inclusion component under the pipeline NUSAF follow-up project.
Climate and Gender - Round 3 Grantees						
Ethiopia	Promoting Climate-Resilient Livelihoods Options for Poorest Women	Support the Government of Ethiopia to develop viable climate-resilient livelihood options for poor women participating in the Productive Safety net Program to enhance their shock resilience through income diversification.	WEE, climate	$200,000	**237,388 households** are participating in the economic inclusion component of PSNP	ACTIVE The World Bank team has advanced a value chain analysis to identify climate-resilient livelihoods that will inform the design of the economic inclusion component under PSNP. Progress has been driven by strong stakeholder engagement, high-quality data collection tools, and targeted capacity-building for field officers. Close collaboration with the PEI team helped refine the terms of references (TOR) for the study and improve data collection tools, ensuring technical rigor and a gender-sensitive approach. The grant will also support a policy report and workshop with the government that builds on the findings of the value chain analysis.
India	Building Climate Resilience of Rural Women in India	Build the resilience of rural women in India to adapt to climate change, gain access to green jobs and participate in global carbon markets.	WEE, climate	$200,000	**542,994 households** in the economic inclusion component of the Tamil Nadu Rural Transformation Project	ACTIVE Grant activities, including the stocktaking of locally-led climate adaptation interventions and development of training materials on climate-smart agriculture are in progress. Early engagement of the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) counterparts and the agencies implementing state rural livelihood programs, including the Tamil Nadu Rural Transformation Project, has been effective in securing commitment to scale climate interventions.
Kenya	Building Climate Resilience of Rural Women in Kenya	Support the sustainable livelihoods and empowerment of poor and vulnerable women in Kenya by integrating climate resilience into economic inclusion programming.	WEE, climate	$200,000	**18,562 households** participated in the Second Kenya Social and Economic Inclusion Project (KSEIP 2)	ACTIVE The World Bank team has made progress on identifying green value chains, finalizing the ToR for the market assessment with government and partner inputs and launching procurement to hire a firm. The gender norms diagnostic, developed with the Gender Innovation Lab, will be integrated with both the market assessment and the climate information services study, supported by the grant.

Country	Grant Name	Grant Objectives	Innovations	Grant Amount	Direct participants (no. of households)[1]	Status
Senegal	Enhancing Climate Resilience for Women through Climate-Smart Economic Inclusion Programs	Inform the introduction of innovative interventions to promote women's climate adaptation and resilience through the two government-led economic inclusion programs Yokk Koom Koom (YKK) and the Agriculture Resilience Program (ARP).	WEE, climate	$200,000	**125,000 households** are expected to participate in the YKK and ARP programs	ACTIVE The grant-financed constraints analysis (identifying barriers to climate adaptation) is in progress, with the research framework finalized in collaboration with the Gender Innovation Lab. A complementary report on gender-sensitive climate adaptation options is underway, drawing on desk reviews, global best practices, and consultations with local experts, CGIAR, and FAO. Strong coordination across project, regional teams, and researchers has ensured alignment across grant activities.
Togo	Strengthening Women's Resilience through Climate-Smart Economic Inclusion	Build climate resilience of Togolese women through climate-sensitive targeting and program design under the national flagship safety net program Novissi and other poverty-targeted initiatives.	WEE, climate	$200,000	**100,000 households** are expected to participate in the economic inclusion component of the Novissi program	ACTIVE Grant-financed studies on climate adaptation measures and enhancing the social registry's capacity to target climate vulnerability are in progress. The studies involve desk reviews, stakeholder interviews, and focus group discussions. Strong cross-sectoral collaboration has been key in ensuring integration of a gender lens in the studies.
Uzbekistan	Support to Uzbekistan Economic Inclusion Program	Support the Government of Uzbekistan to design a climate-resilient and gender-sensitive economic inclusion program for vulnerable households.	WEE, climate	$180,000	**100,000 households** are expected to participate in an economic inclusion program under the Innovative Social Protection System for Inclusion of Vulnerable People Project (INSON)	ACTIVE A needs assessment to identify climate vulnerabilities is in progress, with the methodology being developed in collaboration with the National Agency for Social Protection (NASP). The activity on climate-resilient agricultural technologies is being re-oriented from a mapping to diagnosing their use and access, to better inform the design of an economic inclusion program.

Financial Highlights

As of June 30, 2025, development partner contributions to the Partnership for Economic Inclusion Multi-Donor Trust Fund (PEI MDTF) totaled $20.20 million. The table below presents the status of paid and unpaid contributions by development partners. These contributions represent the amounts specified in the administrative agreements.

Development Partner	Contribution Currency	Signed (Contribution Currency)	Amount Received (US$, Millions)	Total (US$, Millions)
New Venture Fund	Million $	4.00	4.00	4.00
Germany-Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)	Million €	5.90	6.84	6.84
BRAC USA, Inc	Million $	0.50	0.50	0.50
Ireland - Minister for Foreign Affairs/ Irish Aid	Million €	1.15	1.25	1.25
Stitchting BRAC International	Million $	0.95	0.95	0.95
Co-Impact Philanthropic Funds, Inc.	Million $	2.00	2.00	2.00
United States Agency for International Development	Million $	1.00	1.00	1.00
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)	million SEK	40.00	3.66	3.66
Total paid and unpaid contributions			**20.20**	**20.20**

The table below presents the financial summary for the PEI MDTF, including information on the status of donor contributions, investment income, grant commitments and disbursements, and funds available for future allocations.

Description	Inception - June 30, 2019	July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020	July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021	July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022	July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023	July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024	July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025	Cumulative up to June 30, 2025
Signed contributions (US$ equivalent)								
Total signed contributions	7,169,670	500,000	3,164,145	1,273,820	989,285	2,250,000	4,856,641	20,203,562
Unpaid contributions	–	–	–	–	–	–		–

Description	Inception - June 30, 2019	July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020	July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021	July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022	July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023	July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024	July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025	Cumulative up to June 30, 2025
Receipts (US$ equivalent)								
Contributions paid in	4,169,670	1,750,000	4,369,095	1,818,870	989,285	2,250,000	4,856,641	20,203,562
Investment income	24,626	78,898	18,490	10,953	153,241	186,419	254,517	727,154
Total receipts	4,194,297	1,828,898	4,387,586	1,829,823	1,142,526	2,436,419	5,111,159	20,930,716
Disbursements (US$ equivalent)								
Grant disbursements	–	1,119,622	2,263,700	2,931,158	2,957,277	2,359,110	2,348,076	13,978,943
Program management	137,041	257,107	126,488	178,468	139,139	278,063	205,192	1,321,498
Total disbursements	137,041	1,376,729	2,390,188	3,109,626	3,096,416	2,637,173	2,553,268	15,300,440
Trust fund cash balance (US$ equivalent)								5,630,275
Grant committed amounts								17,712,837
Grant allocations								17,512,837
Available balance for new programming[a] (US$ equivalent)								**3,417,879**

(a) As of June 30, 2025, US$0.02 million in approved grants are still pending transfer or allocation; thus, $3.2 million will be the available budget forfuture programming. Source: SAP (World Bank internal system).

Disbursements as of June 30, 2025

Code	FY25 Actuals as of June 30, 2025 (US$)	Cumulative Disbursements Since Inception (US$)
Program Management/Administration	**205,192**	**1,321,498**
Staff time	193,695	1,061,885
STCs	-	155,617
Travel	7,890	58,865
Other Program Expenses	3,606	45,130

Code	FY25 Actuals as of June 30, 2025 (US$)	Cumulative Disbursements Since Inception (US$)
Pillar 1: Country Engagement	**449,451**	**6,126,269**
Staff time	76,842	874,372
STCs	22,686	959,538
Travel	-	13,062
Grants CFP1/CFP2/CFP3	349,924	4,243,353
Other Program Expenses		35,945
Pillar 2: Innovation and Learning	**479,000**	**2,315,918**
Staff time		437,241
STCs	-	675,881
Travel	-	74,987
Impact Collaborative Grants	478,980	899,819
Other Program Expenses	20	227,990
Pillar 3: Global Knowledge	**1,419,625**	**5,536,754**
Staff time	321,243	1,269,906
STCs	693,944	3,351,649
Travel	68,176	113,019
Events	321,706	655,199
Other Program Expenses	14,555	146,981
Total	**2,553,268**	**15,300,440**

Source: SAP (World Bank internal system)

The Partnership for Economic Inclusion (PEI) is a global partnership with a mission to support the adoption and scale-up of government-led economic inclusion programs that increase the earnings and assets of extremely poor and vulnerable households. PEI brings together global stakeholders to catalyze country-level innovation, advance innovation and learning and share global knowledge. PEI is hosted by the Social Protection and Jobs Global Practice of the World Bank.

Visit us at peiglobal.org

PARTNERSHIP FOR ECONOMIC INCLUSION

THE WORLD BANK
IBRD • IDA | WORLD BANK GROUP

brac

Co Impact

german cooperation
DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT

Implemented by:
giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Irish Aid
Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Sverige

USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE