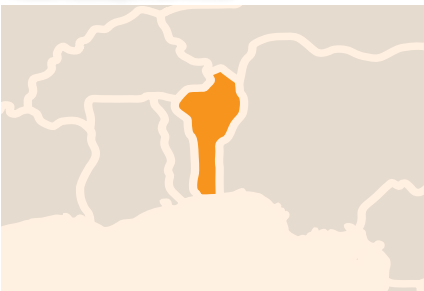


Partner Profile: SIA N'SON



In Benin, an estimated 60 percent of adult women and 59 percent of low-income adults lack access to formal financial services.¹

ONG SIA N'SON Microfinance (SIA N'SON) is a Beninese microfinance institution and a partner in Global Partnerships' Rural-Centered Finance with Education initiative.²

WHO IS SERVED:

SIA N'SON currently serves over 135,000 clients, with a focus on vulnerable communities in rural parts of Benin: 78 percent of their clients live in rural areas and 50 percent are women.³ Nearly three quarters of SIA N'SON borrowers report that they are accessing a formal loan for the first time through SIA N'SON, indicating the organization serves many previously financially excluded individuals.⁴

WHAT IS DELIVERED:

SIA N'SON clients can access group or individual loans to support income-generating activities. Groups can range from three to 15 people. Before receiving the loan, every borrower participates in know-your-credit training as well as training in financial management, loan management, and the importance of savings.

SIA N'SON's microfinance services often complement the literacy, health, and hygiene projects of their sister organization, SIA N'SON Community Development, which are carried out in partnership with the Beninese government as well as non-governmental organizations and United Nations agencies.

WHY IT IS IMPACTFUL:

SIA N'SON's clients can use their loans and financial education to make more informed economic decisions for their businesses and invest in opportunities

to sustain or grow their incomes. Clients can then more easily weather economic shocks, increase food security for their families, and support their children's education. A 2022 study of SIA N'SON borrowers found that 97 percent of clients reported that their quality of life had improved because of SIA N'SON, 89 percent reported an improved ability to face an emergency expense, 88 percent reported an improvement in the number and quality of meals their family eats, 90 percent said they were able to spend more on their children's education, and 86 percent reported increased spending on improvements to their home.⁵

"With my savings from my business, I have been able to construct a brick house in my village," reports a SIA N'SON microfinance client from this study. "I used to rely on menial jobs, but now I have a big business."⁶

1. "The Global Findex Database," The World Bank, 2021, <https://globalfindex.worldbank.org>.
2. SIA N'SON was a current borrower of Global Partnerships Social Investment Fund 6.0, LLC as of June 30, 2023.
3. Data as of March 31, 2023, as reported by SIA N'SON.
4. Based on responses from 275 SIA N'SON clients in a 2022 study by 60 Decibels, Inc.
5. Ibid.
6. Quote from a 62-year-old male client participating in the above-mentioned 2022 study by 60 Decibels, Inc.