



FAST Branch

Finance Accelerating
Savings Group Transformation

Supercharging Savings Groups



Savings Groups are vital economic engines that fuel progress for people living in extreme poverty, **especially rural women.**

While responding to the impacts of COVID-19, we learned that **access to financial services** helped keep members afloat and dramatically improved their business growth.

Loans to savings groups (FAST) provide an infusion of extra money for members to borrow so they can take even bigger steps to grow or improve their farms and small businesses.

A forever investment. When all the capital is fully deployed, every component included in this offer is paid for through the loans to the savings groups. In other words, this is a **one-time investment** that keeps providing for the members of the savings groups. **Forever.**

Investing in Sustainability

When you invest \$240,000 in a FAST Branch:



6 Loan officers **provide financial literacy and loan capital** to savings groups. To be sustainable, they will serve at least 30 groups annually.



A branch manager and an administrator **supervise and provide monitoring**, training and oversight to the 6 loan officers and the **180 savings groups** they will support in the region.



All ongoing operating costs - including salaries, operations and fuel - are fully covered through its lending operations. **This one-time investment means the branch is forever sustainable.**



Digital technology and mobile money improves our ability to reach more rural clients, increases the safety and security of our clients, and saves everyone time they can use more productively and profitably.



The power of small loans

Most people living in extreme poverty run small farms or businesses to support their families. To lift themselves out of poverty, they **need them to grow**, which often requires capital. Savings groups **provide crucial loans** to their members. FAST loans enable these groups to offer larger, quicker loans, **boosting economic growth** and diversifying farms and businesses.

A recent **external evaluation** of savings group members who received a FAST loan in Rwanda showed:

- **96%** said their lives had improved
- **85%** reported improved ability to take care of their children
- **77%** reported an increased savings level
- **60%** increased their ability to cover living expenses for more than 3 months

Motivation and expanding impact

- **All savings group members must agree** to take the group loan and 80% must agree to personally borrow from the added funds for business purposes.
- The new capital supports business development and increases incomes which **motivates groups to save more money** to qualify for a larger loan the following year.
- As loans to savings groups are repaid*, donated funds become a permanent asset for **continuous lending to savings groups in the future**—continuously **expanding the impact of your initial investment**.

*For fiscal year 2023, the FAST loan repayment was 98.2%.

Invest, then see your impact

After 12-21 months, a loan officer not only has a portfolio of savings groups they are lending to, but the interest from the loans also cover all their costs. When you invest in 6 FAST loan officers, not only will their loans cover their own costs, but also all the costs of establishing a new Branch Office, including the costs of the manager and administrator. Details of your investment - photos, GPS coordinates, number of savings groups and members, a client story, and more will be in reports provided at 12 and 21 months.



For more information, please contact your World Vision representative.

World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. Motivated by our faith in Jesus Christ, we serve alongside the poor and oppressed as a demonstration of God's unconditional love for all people. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.