

# \$ | FAST Capital

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.

#### The Opportunity - Self-sufficiency

When you invest \$15,000 in FAST Capital:



Loan officers provide financial literacy and loan capital to savings groups. Previously funded with 15 groups, FAST Capital funds the final 15 groups\*, allowing all the costs of the loan officer to be covered by the interest from the loans.



Loans are made to **groups who** have been working together for at least two years, based on their total savings the prior year, with a standard first loan amount of \$1,000.



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.

\*Your \$15,000 investment in FAST Capital enables us to provide 15 FAST loans serving an average of 330 savings group members.



#### 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 sustainability**

- 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%.

## See your impact

For each FAST Capital investment of \$15,000, a report of what you made possible will be provided including photos of the loan officer and savings group members, GPS coordinates where the groups meet, and a client story from one of the groups. We will typically be able to provide the report within 9 months of the gift receipt.





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For more information, please contact your World Vision representative.