

**GUARDAVANTI**  
ONLUS PER IL FUTURO DEI BAMBINI

***Economic Emancipation  
for 70 Women  
Burkina Faso***



## PROJECT GENESIS

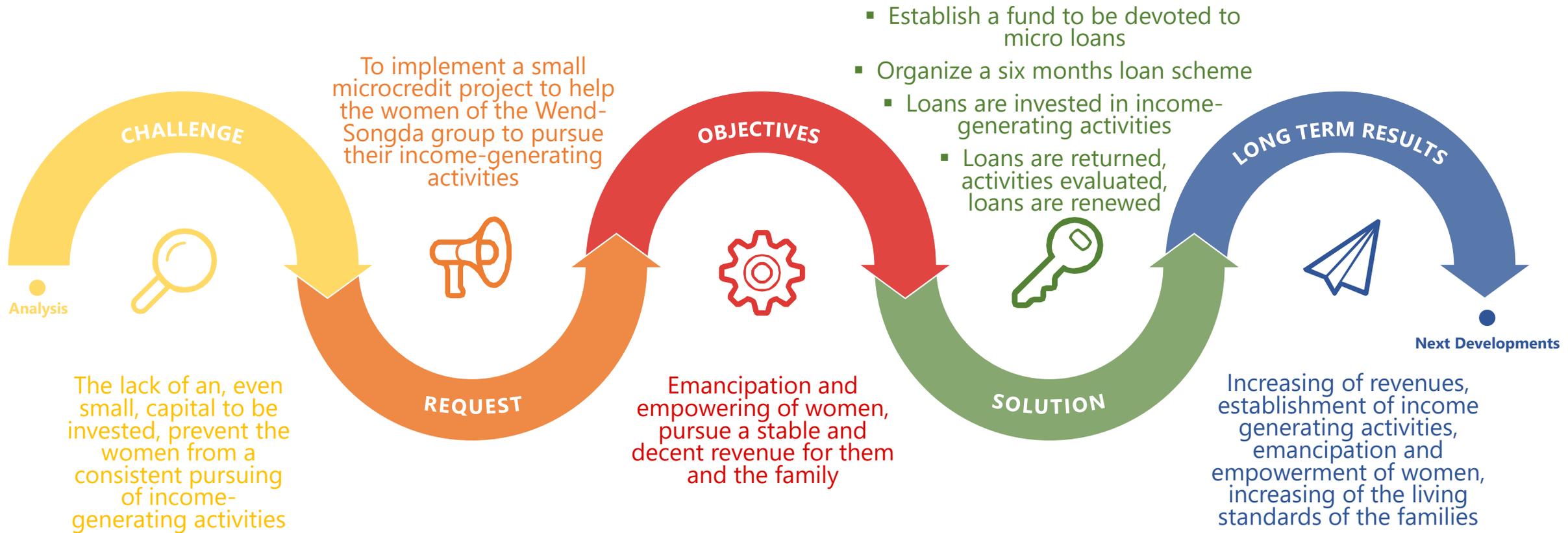


Guardavanti started its partnership with the women group “Wend-Songda” (a group of small sesame producer in the village of Dodougou) in 2018, responding to a call for help to give water to the village. A borehole was drilled, and a pump installed.

Now, the group is in need to increase the women’s income and self-sufficiency; this project is the answer to this need.



# Economic Emancipation for 70 Women



## THE CONTEXT

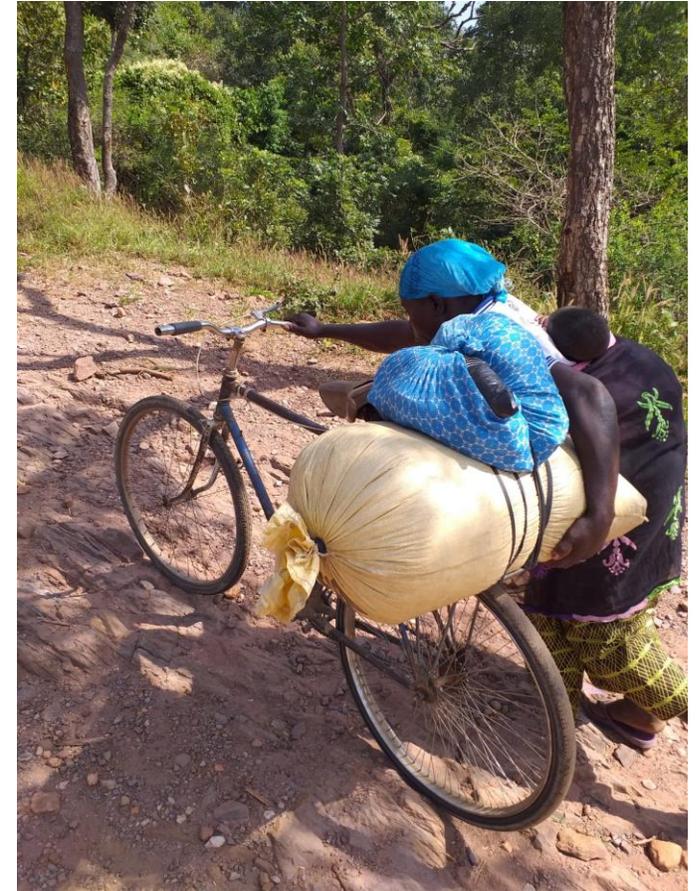
In Burkina Faso society is still largely based on patriarchy and women depend heavily on men, especially economically. In a country where agriculture employs the majority of the labor force (82%), agricultural activities heavily rely on women's work. The money generated from these activities is mainly managed by the husbands, thus being women completely dependent from them.

About 30km south of Bobo-Dioulasso, Dodougou is only hardly accessible through a bumpy road. Dodougou counts today near 1600 villagers.

## THE CHALLENGE

As everywhere in Burkina Faso, women in Dodougou devote more than half of their time to agricultural work. To support themselves and the children, and to cope with the uncertainty of the harvests (draught, insects, soil erosion, lack of processing plants) they also do small business: manufacturing of millet beer, processing and selling of agricultural products. Unfortunately, the revenues from these activities do not allow them to meet all their and the family's needs. The lack of an, even small, capital to be invested, prevent from a consistent pursuing and from a diversification of the income-generating activities.

Source: <https://www.ilgiorno.it/bergamo/cronaca/coronavirus-morti-esercito-1.5073459>



On the way to the market

 **OBJECTIVES**



**EMPOWER AND  
EMANCIPATE WOMEN**

**ESTABLISH STABLE  
INCOME-GENERATING  
ACTIVITIES**

**INCREASE  
REVENUES**

**IMPROVE LIVING  
STANDARDS  
FOR THE FAMILIES**

## THE SOLUTION

1. A **revolving fund** is created and deposited on a dedicate bank account
2. **Small loans** are distributed to the women: 2 cycles/year of 6 months each. An evaluation is planned at the end of each cycle. The loans will be managed by “money apps”, common and trustable in Burkina Faso
3. **Microenterprise training**: money management, savings, income-generating activity vs survival, investing into the activity, etc. Training sessions will be held both before the loans and each following month (8 months) to ensure implementation of the learned notions, to support, reinforce, and timely discover eventual problems.
4. **Self-help groups**: subgroups will be formed, to work as self-help groups, during the whole project. Aim of these groups is to share experience, ideas, problems, solutions.
5. **Women empowerment/ gender balance training**: to raise awareness among the men of the importance for the women to become more independent financially.

## LONG TERM RESULTS

The project is **completely sustainable**. The revolving fund will be continuously used only for income-generating activities loans; each six months the loans are returned to the fund and can be borrowed again. Who is not able to return the loan will be excluded from the scheme.

Training throughout the project, together with the self-help groups will ensure autonomy of the women with regard to the management of their income-generating activities and of the related money management. Moreover, the women can disseminate their learnings and experience to other women/groups in nearby villages, thus amplifying the project's results in time.

Guardavanti will stay in contact with the Wend-Songda group, following their activity and responding to future needs with future projects. **Guardavanti passionately believes in strong partnerships, that continue and develop in time.** Each project deepens the mutual knowledge, rise the mutual trust: a small treasure to be valued in time.

## € BUDGET

The necessary budget for the project has been calculated in detail by local partners.

The budget is allocated as follows

- Revolving and risk fund= 12,000\$
- Training costs= 1,200\$
- Coordination, monitoring, evaluation = 4,800\$
- Financial reporting = 2,000\$

