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# Women benefit from improved access to mechanization

## USAID IPIMFS

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PRESENTED BY: SAHEL GRAINS



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## SUMMARY

### **USAID IPIMFS HAS INCREASED AND SUSTAINED ACCES TO PRODUCTIVE RESOURCES FOR WOMEN IN THE SADA ZONE**

- *Women have increased their acreages under maize cultivation by 10.9%*
- *Increased investment in improved seeds by 23.5%*
- *Increased investment in fertilizer by 14.51%*
- *Increased area under fertilizer application by 44.9%*

### **USAID PIMFS ALLOCATION OF MECHANIZED INPUTS TO SERVE ONLY WOMEN DROVE THE INCREASED ACCESS TO PRODUCTIVE RESOURCES**

- *USAID IPIMFS dedicated mechanized inputs to serve women throughout the production chain*
- *273 women have directly benefitted from the diverse mechanized services*
- *2,149 women received training in good agronomic practices and post-harvest handling*

### **USAID IPIMFS GENDER STRATEGY IS DRIVING HIGHER QUALITY GRAINS AND INCOMES FOR WOMEN**

- *Yield per hectare for direct beneficiaries has increased by 61.2% relative to baseline*
- *The quality of grains produced by female direct beneficiaries has improved with results showing lower levels of aflatoxin*





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## *Situation in the SADA Zone...*

*“Women used to plough late because they find it difficult to access tractors. Even if a woman is holding money and the man do not have money, the tractor will go to the man’s field rather than go to the woman’s field”.*

*Hafisah Iddrisu, Kong, Sissala East*



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## USAID IPIMFS GENDER INTEGRATION STRATEGIES ARE BEGINNING TO SHOW RESULTS..

### USAID IPIMFS gender strategies

1. Allocation of mechanized inputs to serve women primarily
2. Convenient training times for women off their busy schedule
3. Targeting more women beneficiary farmers



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## **CONVENIENT AND FLEXIBLE INTEREST FREE CREDIT ON MECHANIZED SERVICES INCREASED WOMEN ACCESS TO IMPROVED SEEDS AND FERTILIZER**

- Increased investment in improved seeds by 23.5%
- Increased investment in fertilizer by 14.51%

***“The tractor helped us a lot, and our husbands were happy. We ploughed early this year, and used the remainder of the money to buy fertilizer and seeds.” -***

***Mohammed Rashida, Kong,  
Sissala East***



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## **EARLY ACCESS TO MECHANIZED SERVICES HAS IMPROVED YIELDS FOR WOMEN**

- Women ploughed and planted with the early effective rains relative to previous seasons, with studies showing signs of early planting and improved yields relative to control groups.
  - Relative to control groups, yield for direct beneficiaries of mechanized services is 56.2% more

***“I had 30 bags from my 1 acre field this season. The tractor came early so I was able to prepare my land and plant early.” – Alijata Ambra***



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## **WOMEN HAVE EXTRA TIME FOR SOCIAL AND OTHER ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES**

- Mechanization has reduced time use for planting and fertilizer application with women reallocating extra time for other socio-economic activities
  - Average time spent on planting and fertilizer application per acre has reduced by 75%,
  - Women are now reallocating extra time for other socio-economic activities with studies showing 52.6% of women engaged in non-farm economic activities in the past 12 months

***“The planter reduced the time I used for planting and fertilizer application. I only gave the seeds and fertilizer to the operator and went home to work on my shea butter” – Hafisah Suley***



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## **IMPROVED ACCESS TO POST-HARVEST HANDLING HAS IMPROVED THE QUALITY OF MAIZE PRODUCED BY WOMEN**

- Women have improved the quality of grains produced with laboratory tests showing acceptable levels of aflatoxin
- Women are gaining premium prices and broader markets for quality grains



***“We didn’t know. We used to gather the maize and leave them on the ground for many days. Sometimes too, if we don’t get shellers, we beat the grains on the ground, but through the training and the sheller IPIMFS gave to us, we are able to harvest and thresh early.” – Ayishetu Sulemani***



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