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The U.S. Government's Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative

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Submitted by kdad on January 16, 2015



The women of Kweigbein Farmers Association, located in Bensonville, Liberia, meet after a nine month savings cycle to divide the shares of the savings and loan group.

The Kweigbein women have little opportunities to access loans in their communities. There are loan clubs that are usually led by business men, provide no legal protection, require a minimal amount of collateral, and the loans are paid back with 25% interest.

USAID FED partnered with a vegetable farmers group, and helped female farmers create a Village and Savings Loan Association (VSLA). The group has made dozens of loans to its members and created another \$28,000 LD in interest, all of which stays in the members' hands. With these loans, they have bought better supplies and land, which will help them increase their overall production and yields.

Credit: USAID Food and Enterprise Development Program for Liberia (FED) / Nico Parkinson



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