

When women earn, *everyone* thrives



In Egypt, a community of women discovered how taking control of their own money creates brighter futures for themselves, their families, and entire countries, which leads to a safer and more prosperous world for everyone, including Americans at home.

In many countries around the world, **women have a harder time finding paid jobs, accessing banking services** – including small loans or savings accounts – and **receiving business skills training**.

And yet, time and again, women everywhere have told CARE that **they want to generate their own income and run their own businesses so that they can lift their families out of poverty *without* relying on others**. Proven, low-cost solutions like CARE’s community-led savings groups are helping women overcome these barriers every day.

CARE’s savings groups have served as powerful community alternatives to banks for over 30 years. With a small investment, they enable women around the world to access credit, secure business loans,

learn savings techniques, and achieve financial independence. **The result goes beyond savings — it brings women the opportunity to succeed and successfully emerge from poverty.**



Once established, **these community-led savings groups run on their own without outside support, making them one of the strongest economic returns in global aid**: families and communities become less dependent on future U.S. support, economies become stronger, and global trade markets improve.

Together with CARE and local organizations, **women in Egypt are saving nearly three times more than they used to** and improving their families' quality of life thanks to CARE savings groups.

Here's how: First, the women **received training in financial management**, from creating budgets to understanding credit. By the end of the project, women were nine times more likely to consider the consequences of failing to repay a loan and seven times more likely to access a loan.

Many of the women who participated in the program have now found success as small business owners and are **better equipped to manage their day-to-day finances**, both at home and work. Their newfound financial independence has enabled them to contribute to decision-making in their households and communities. Stronger families and more stable communities abroad ultimately reduce long-term demands on U.S. international assistance budgets.

As a result, **their families eat better and have more meals, their children are more likely to attend school, and local businesses are stronger**, creating more prosperous and self-sufficient communities.

CARE calls on U.S. leadership to step up and support women and girls through robust U.S. international assistance that helps them access income-earning opportunities and skills, because **savings groups are not just a safety net for one individual – they are a launchpad for lasting prosperity.**

“Before, we were housewives. We did not leave the house. We now act together.”



“This gives awareness that women can also earn a living and gives all of us *the confidence we need to hold our heads high in society.*”

— Nyabol, savings group participant

