



SORO YIRIWASO - MALI

Soro Yiriwaso is a **non profit organization** targeting poor **women** working in **agriculture** in **rural** areas. Soro Yiriwaso comes from a microcredit program set up by Save The Children in 1986 to give funding to poor women in order to improve children's health and education.

- As of December 31st, 2008, Soro Yiriwaso served 40,037 active borrowers for a total portfolio of EUR 3.5 mln.
- Soro Yiriwaso is the 7th largest Malian MFI in term of loan portfolio and the 2nd in term of active borrowers.
- The MFI developed its network in southern Mali, and now operates through a network of 7 branches and with 81 loan officer making until 100km to reach remote communities.
- 96% of Soro Yiriwaso's clients are women and 80% are located in rural areas.
- 69% of Soro Yiriwaso's loan portfolio is dedicated to agriculture activities.
- Soro Yiriwaso wants to become the first rural MFI in Mali and to play a key role in improving the country's food self-sufficiency.



Group loans represent 80% of Soro Yiriwaso's loan portfolio. The agricultural group loan methodology was developed in partnership with MicroSave. For each kind of crop line, a detailed study establishes the minimum investment required for planting one hectare in terms of seeds, equipment needed, fertilizer, tools, working forces... A technical form exists and is updated each year. This form helps credit officers to determine loan size according to the crop type and the number of hectares cultivated. Maturities range goes from 4 to 10 months, and amount from EUR 23 to EUR 152.

Soro Yiriwaso also offers trade based group loans, and different types of individual loans.

The Grameen Crédit Agricole Microfinance Foundation accepted to finance Soro Yiriwaso with a 2 years and 3 months loan of FCFA 600mln, equivalent to EUR 915th.



Soro Yiriwaso	2008
Gross loan portfolio	EUR 3,5mln
Active borrowers	40 037
Women borrowers	96%
Rural borrowers	80%
Average loan amount	EUR 88
ROE	20,4%