



Women's entrepreneurship & IPV:  
A cluster-randomized trial of microenterprise  
assistance and partner participation in post-  
conflict Uganda

Eric P. Green, Christopher Blattman , Julian Jamison, **Jeannie Annan**



# The Survey of War Affected Youth

RESEARCH & PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH IN ARMED CONFLICT IN UGANDA

SPECIAL REPORT ON WOMEN & GIRLS FOR THE JUBA PEACE PROCESS

02 • 2008

## What is SWAY?

SWAY is a research program in northern Uganda dedicated to understanding the scale and nature of war violence, the effects of war on youth, and the evaluation of programs to recover, reintegrate, and develop after conflict.

### In this Research Brief:

- The well-being of women and girls in northern Uganda
- The impacts of war and displacement
- Recommendations



# Journal of Conflict Resolution

<http://jcr.sagepub.com/>



Social Science & Medicine

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/socscimed](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/socscimed)

**Civil War, Reintegration, and**  
Jeannie Annan, Christopher Blattman, Dy...

The risk of return: Intimate partner violence in Northern Uganda's armed conflict<sup>☆</sup>

Jeannie Annan<sup>a,\*</sup>, Moriah Brier<sup>b</sup>

# Research question

- Do cash grants + business training lead to increased income for marginalized women in post-conflict setting?

**Women's economic empowerment**

**Engaging men**

**IPV**

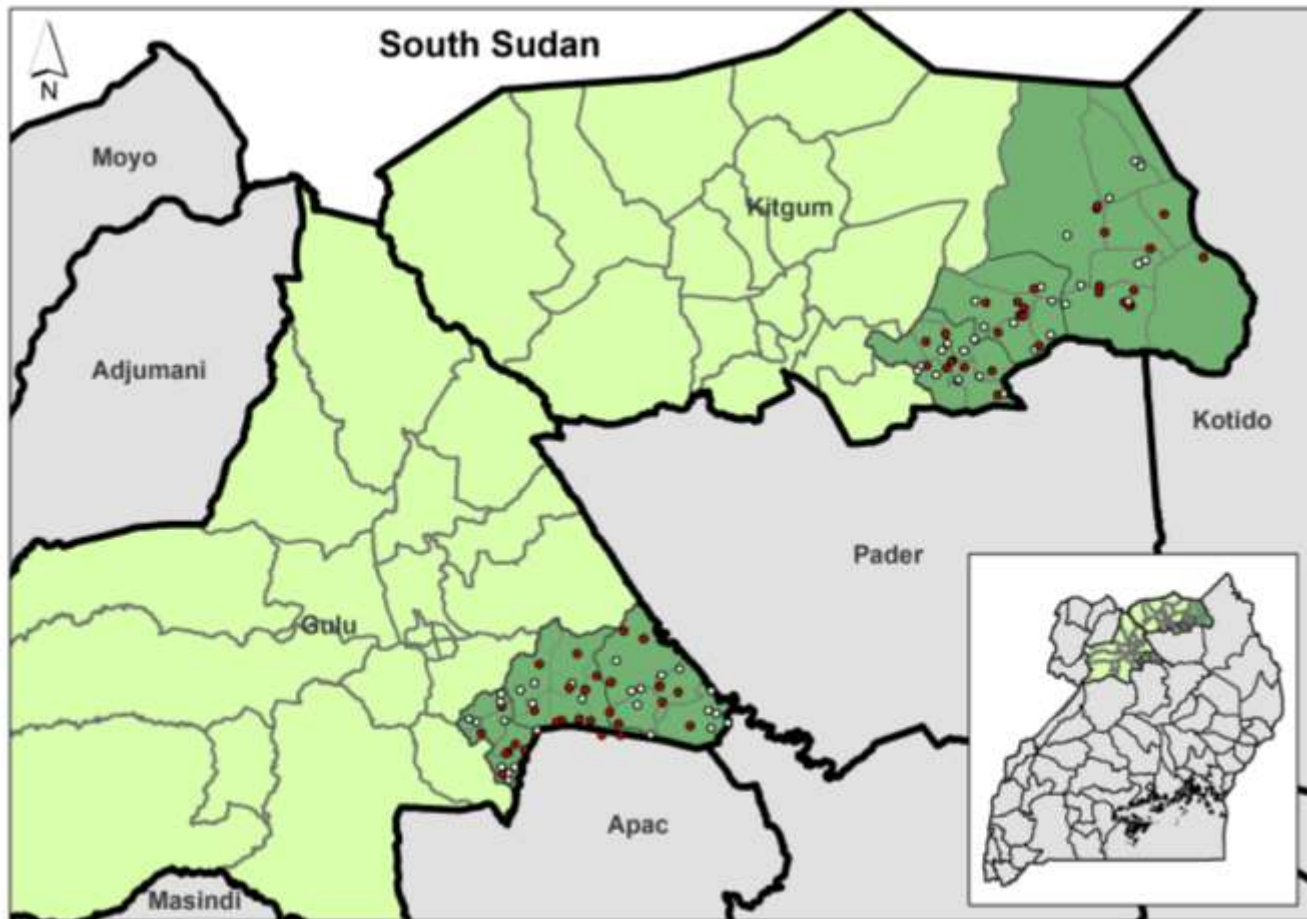
# Research questions

- Do cash grants + business training lead to improved autonomy, partner relationships and decreased IPV?
- Does more inclusive approach (engaging men) to economic program lead to partner's support for business and improved partner relationship? Autonomy? Attitudes around gender roles?
- Does inclusive approach to economic program lead to reduction of IPV?





www.avsi.org



Note: Districts as of 2009. Villages randomized to Phase 1 in red.

0 20 40 80 Kilometers

## 120 small, poor villages in northern Uganda

80-300 households per village

Rain-fed subsistence farming








Recovering from conflict

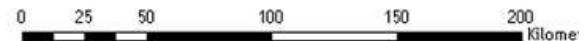
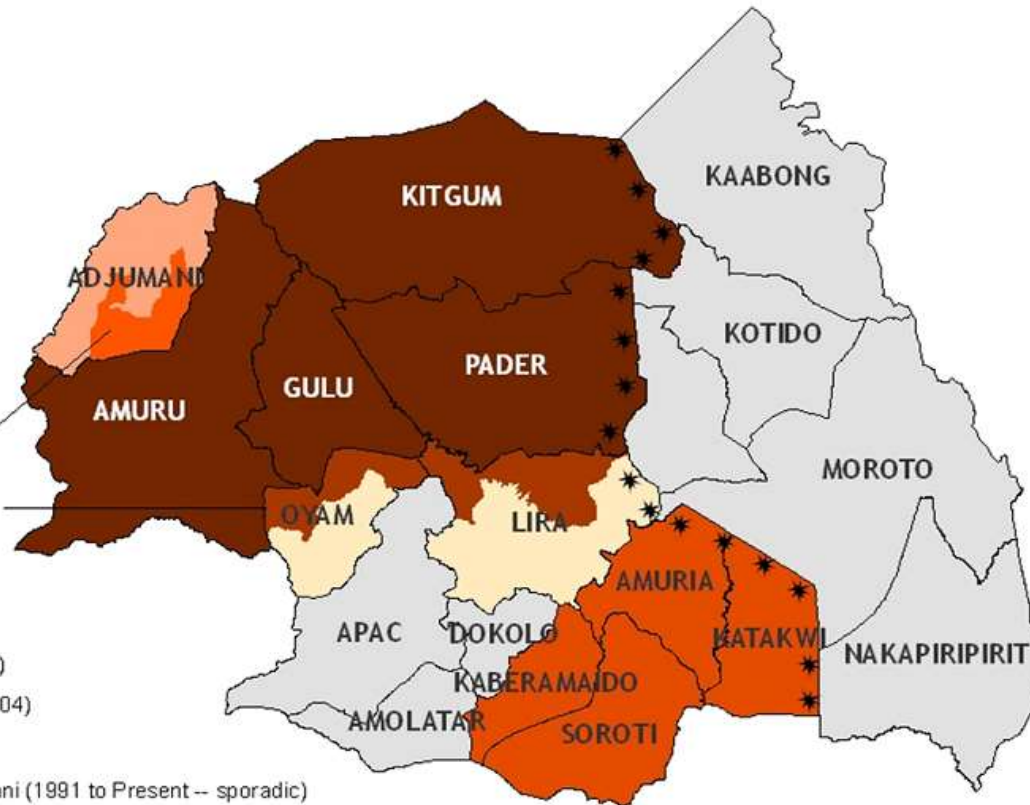


(Darker Shading Represents More Severely Affected Areas)

### LEGEND

#### Conflict Affected Areas

-  I. Acholi (1986 to Present)
-  II. Northern Lango (2002-04)
-  III. Teso (2003)
-  IV. South Eastern Adjumani (1991 to Present -- sporadic)
-  V. Adjumani
-  VI. Lango
-  \* Conflict with Karamoja



## Context: Post-conflict recovery

Low-level insurgency 1987-2006

Civilians the main target of rebel violence and conscription



## Mass forced displacement 2002-08

To camps around local trading centers, usually a few kilometers from home villages





**Return 2007-09**

Intervention implemented as villagers are finishing resettlement in their original villages



## NGO and community identify 15 of poorest, most marginalized people per village

Ages 18-35 (average 27). Average education 3 years.  
15 hours of work/week, almost none in nonfarm enterprise  
Cash earnings \$4.47 per month



# Women's Income Generating Support (WINGS) program

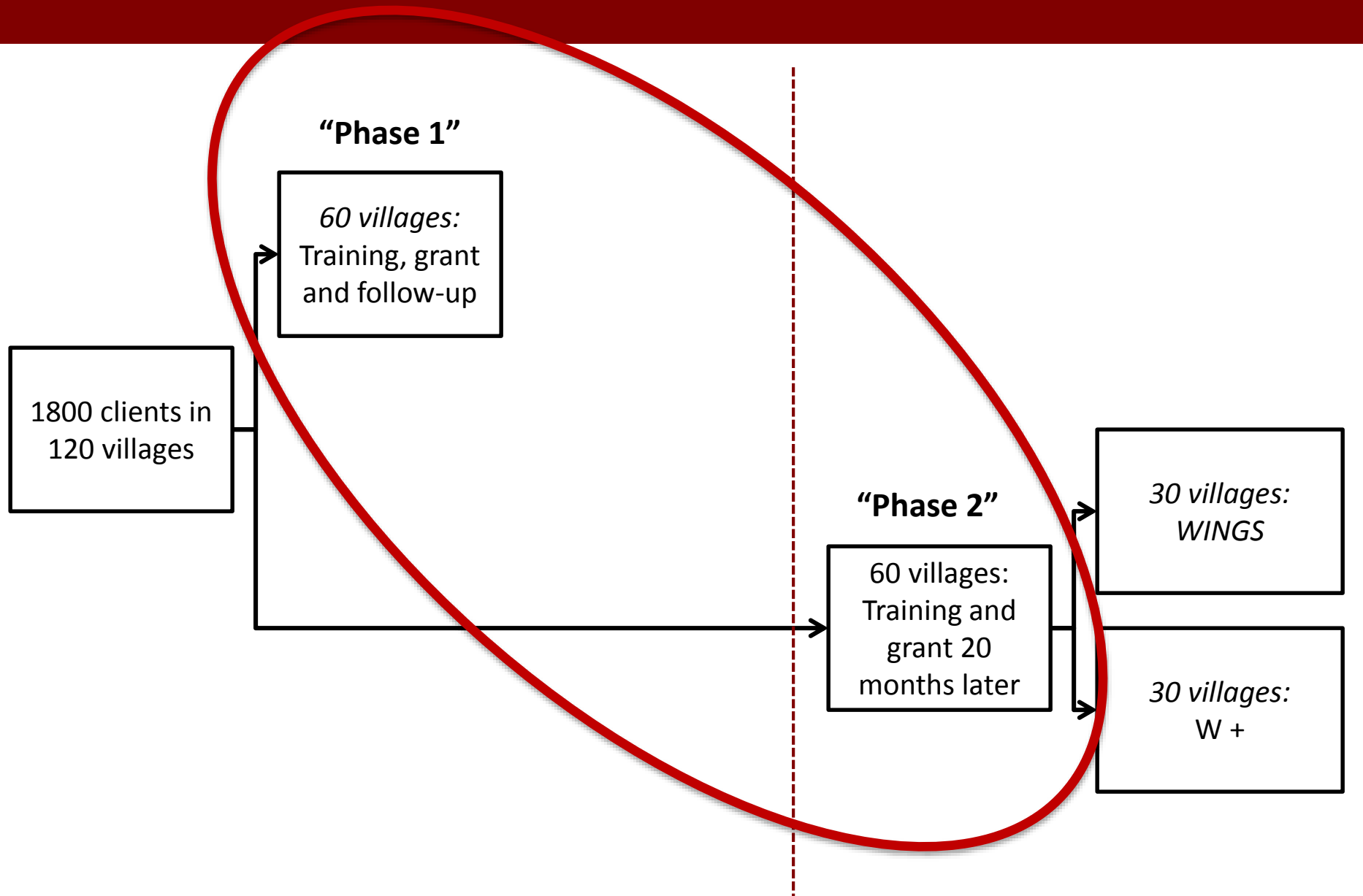


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1. 5 days of business skills training
  - Basic accounting, sales, etc.
  - Make a simple business plan
  - Encouraged to become petty traders and small retailers
2. \$150 unconditional grant
3. 5 follow-up visits over 6 months
  - Aim to provide
    1. Accountability & commitment to invest
    2. Business advice



# Two cluster randomized controlled trials





# Measures and Analysis

## Measures

### Income:

- Earnings, consumption, assets. Employment hours; financial assets and access

### Relationship, empowerment and violence measures:

- Quality of relationship with partner
- Support from partner
- IPV
- Attitudes toward gender norms
- Autonomy and influence in household purchases

## Analysis

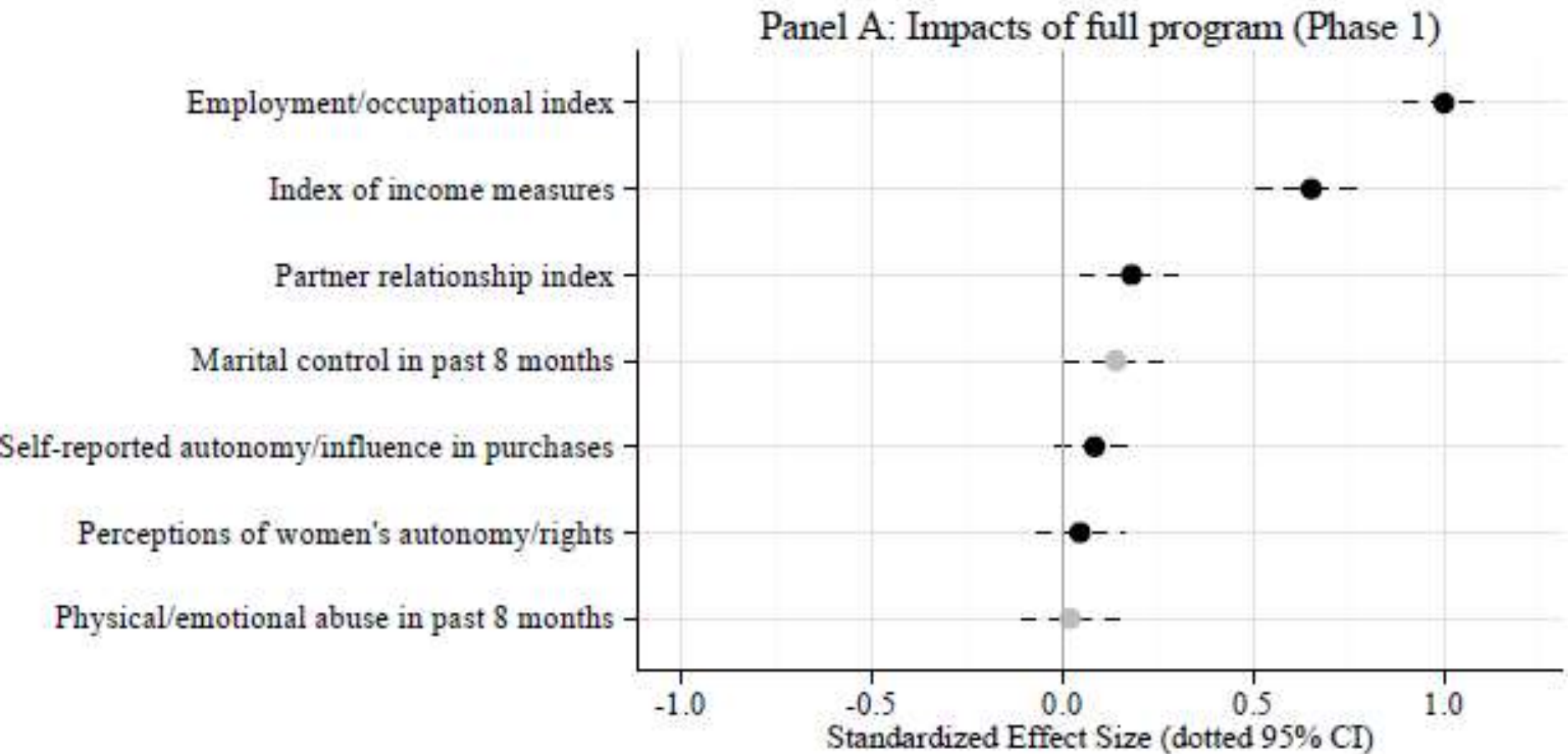
- Intent to Treat (ITT) using OLS regression
- Standard errors clustered by village
- Also looked at TOT and per protocol

# Did women improve economically?

- **Occupational shift:** Likelihood of non-farm business doubles and work hours increase by two thirds
- **Earnings increase by two thirds** without group encouragement, and **more than doubles** with group encouragement
- Overall, WINGS brings poorest villagers up to levels of existing traders

(Blattman et al., 2014)

# But little evidence of impact on women's autonomy or violence



But those with worse partner relationships  
earned less



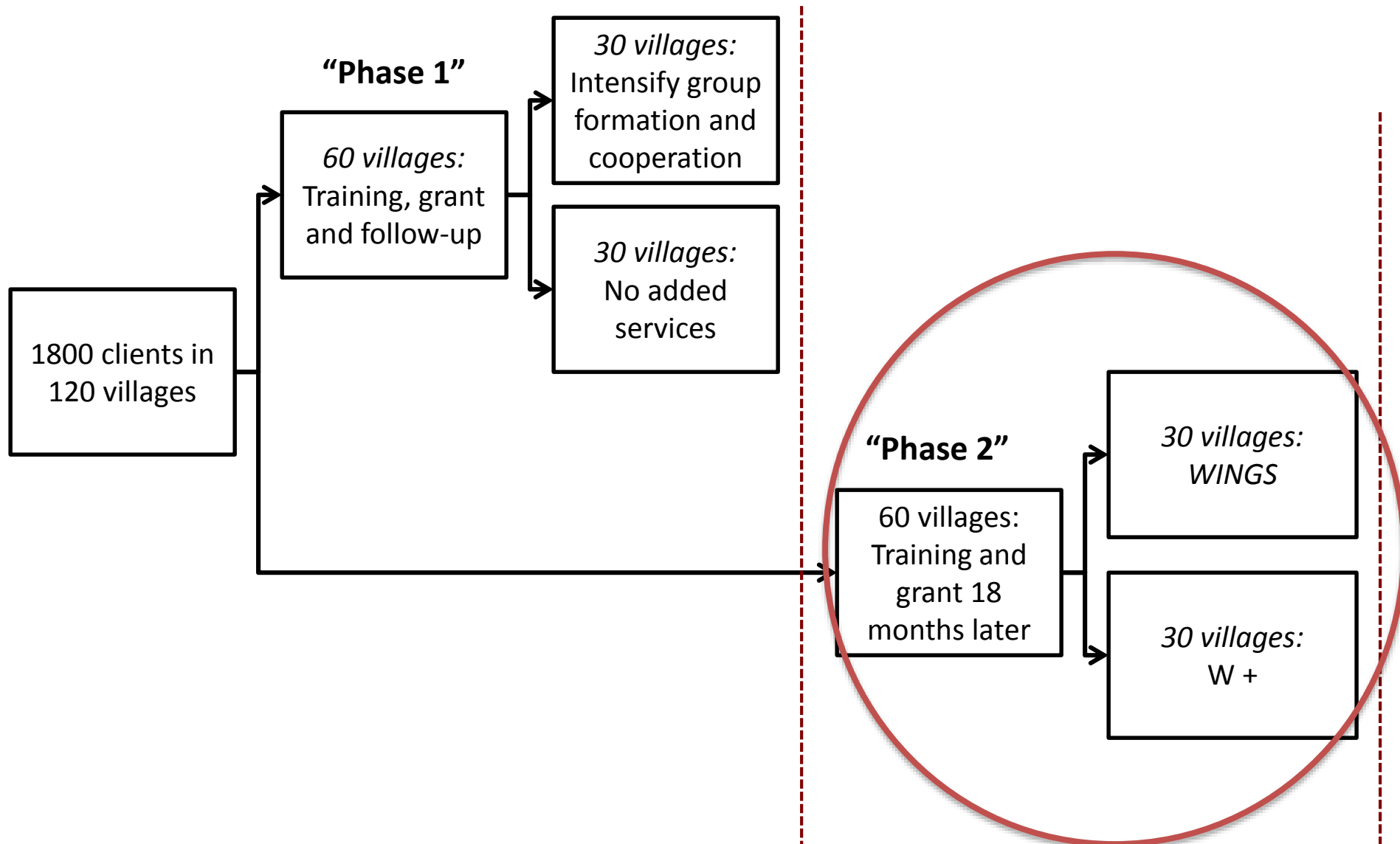
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- Does more inclusive approach (engaging men) to economic program lead to partner's support for business and improved partner relationship? Autonomy? Attitudes around gender roles?
- Does inclusive approach to economic program lead to reduction of IPV?

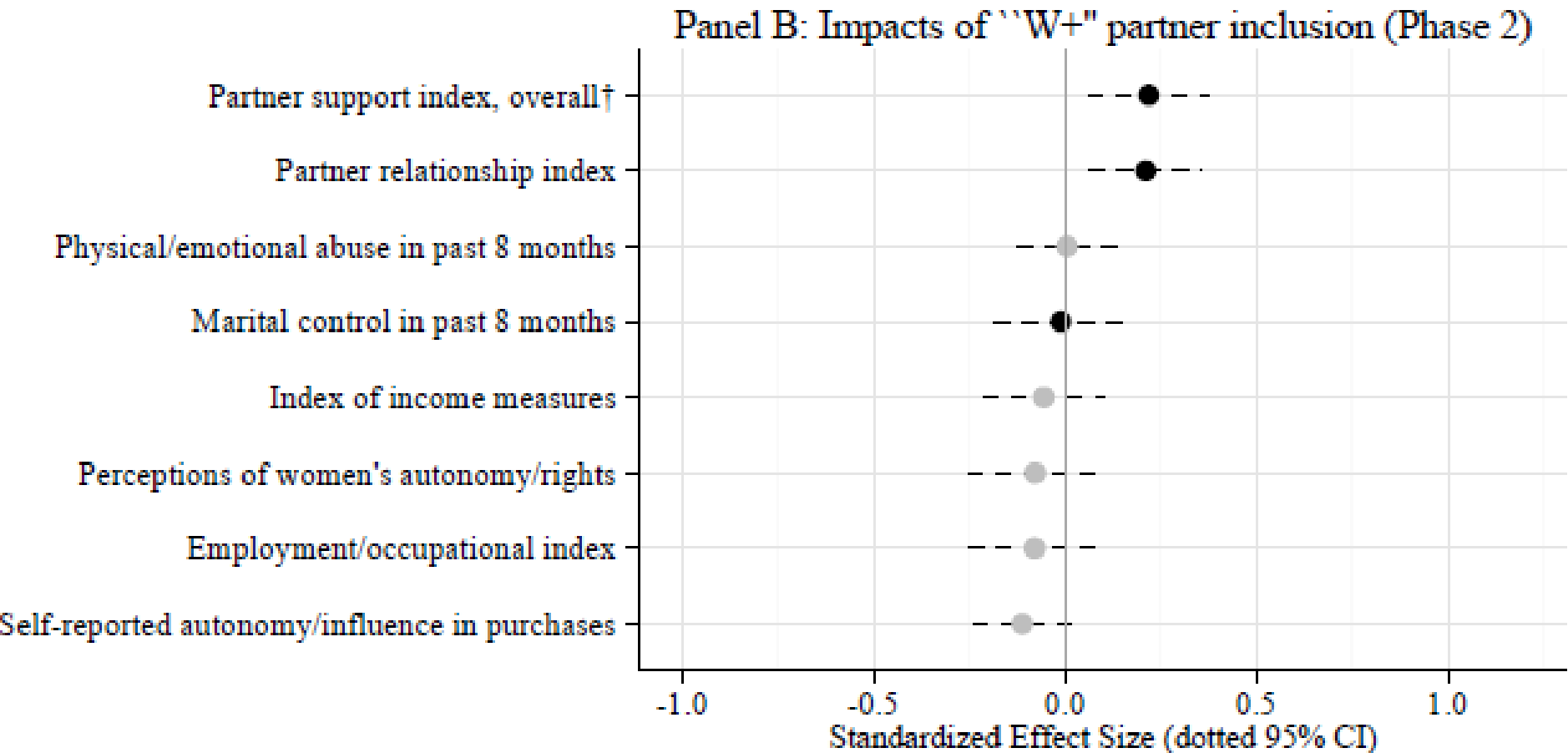
# Intervention 2: WINGS +

- All WINGS components plus *Tic Kacel Ryemo Can*
- Invitation to male partner or other male household member
- Additional day in business training on
  - Cultural, gender and financial barriers to female entrepreneurship
  - Communication
  - Joint problem-solving

# Use second phase to evaluate W+



# Impact on partner relationship but not IPV





# Conclusions

- A **slight, very low cost addition** led to **positive effects** on women's relationship with partner (similar to effect for couples therapy)
- We need to better understand the **mechanisms of change** within the household--**how and when to engage men in women's empowerment**, particularly in cost-effective and scalable ways.
- Economic programs important entry point for broader interventions that use economic gains to stimulate wider social changes.