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QIPs Financing of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) and Milk Production:Case of Bazi Haoussa in the Ansongo Circle in Mali

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Abstract
The objective of this article is to analyze the impact of QIPs funding from the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) on the receipts and profitability of dairy product sales in the village of BaziHaoussa in the circle of Ansongo in Mali.Data collected using questionnaires from 35 randomly selected dairy farmers in the village of BaziHaoussa was analyzed quantitatively and information was summarized using percentages and averages in tables and graphs.The t-tests for paired samples and for independent samples were also used to compare the average revenues and profitability between and within groups before and after the establishment of the production unit.Our results show that all respondents produce milk (fresh and/or curdled) and among them 88.6% also produce liquid butter and/or cheese, 71.5% have taken training in financial management and management techniques production.The receipts and financial returns of the dairy producers who benefit from the financing and who have taken the training are strictly higher than those of the producers who have not taken the training before and after the establishment of the production unit.The results of this study could help MUNISMA to strengthen its participation in economic recovery in areas affected by the security crisis and may constitute an interesting contribution to the scientific literature.
Keywords: Profitability, Milk production, BaziHaoussa, QIPS financing, MINUSMA
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Introduction

To ensure the success of its mission to maintain peace and social cohesion in Mali, the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) has set up a funding program for Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) to relieve the population and boost economic activities.

The bulk of this funding (88%) is earmarked for the populations of Mali's northern and central regions, victims of the growing insecurity that has plagued the country since 2012 (MINUSMA, 2020). It aims to bring the population closer to the mission, create a climate conducive to peace and social cohesion, and strengthen the resilience of low-income economic agents.

According to MINUSMA, 9% of the financing (i.e. 1.3 billion FCFA) was devoted to the local economy.

It is within the framework of this program that MINUSMA financed, in 2018 to the tune of 26 million CFA francs, the equipment of certain dairy producers in the village of BaziHaoussa in the circle of Ansongo, and their training in financial management and in dairy production.

According to dairy farmer Rahma, the security crisis has lowered average dairy production and average sales revenue. Due to a lack of profitability, several dairy producers have had to change jobs, others have found themselves unemployed (Diarra, 2019).

The various training courses in financial management and production, and the new equipment financed by MINUSMA have made it possible to increase the average production of dairy products as well as revenues and profitability (Mint Ahmed, dairy producer).

According to Touré, an agricultural services officer, even if the training and equipment have enabled several former dairy farmers, who had abandoned the profession, to resume production, the recipes and profitability have not changed significantly.

To our knowledge, no study has been conducted to verify the impact of this funding on the revenue and profitability of dairy product sales in this village. This article aims at this task. This work aims to analyze the impact of QIPs funding from MINUSMA on the revenue and profitability of dairy product sales in the village of BaziHaoussa in the circle of Ansongo in Mali.

1. Literature review

1.1. Definition and objectives of quick impact projects

The United Nations Quick Impact Projects (QIPS), which were formally established as part of the United Nations peacekeeping missions program through the Brahimi report in 2004, aim to promote trust between populations and the mission, serve the communities, support the mandate and the national peace and community reconciliation process.

These projects have a maximum cost of US$50,000 and a duration not exceeding 6 months. They also contribute to strengthening national institutions to enable:

• The gradual return of state authority;
• Better provision of basic social services;
• Reconciliation and civilian protection initiatives.

Indeed, this modality set up by the General Assembly of the United Nations, gives to the peace missions and particularly to the MINUSMA the means to establish confidence and to bring to the communities affected by the conflicts, solutions bearing hope to their most pressing concerns: creation of emergency jobs and support for small income-generating initiatives, provision of basic social services (such as health centres, drilling of wells, rehabilitation and construction of schools, markets , etc.), rehabilitation of administrative infrastructure (prefectures, town halls, police stations, courthouses, etc.) but also support for community security needs (UN, 2017).

These various initiatives offer the first peace dividends to the populations and support the Mission's efforts in terms of community dialogue, the restoration of State authority, and also the protection of civilians.

These projects must have an impact that is both rapid and lasting, responding to the priority needs of the population and aim to establish a climate of confidence in the peace process, the Mission and its mandate.

Since its creation in 2013 until June 30, 2020, the Mission has funded 616 projects for approximately $23.9 million. Between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021, a budget of $4.8 million is allocated to approximately 120 QIPs (MINUSMA, 2020). These projects will mainly benefit the North and Center regions and will support requests from the Malian government, international and national NGOs, international agencies and civil society. All projects are executed through local partners and companies.

These projects have contributed, among other things, to strengthening social cohesion; improve access to basic health services and water, strengthen security; revitalize basic education, prevent conflicts and promote the use of pastoral and agricultural resources; to strengthen the economic resilience of households affected by the crisis; create temporary and long-term jobs; rehabilitate cultural heritage (MINUSMA, 2021).

1.2. Funding for training and equipment for dairy producers in BaziHaoussa.

As part of its contribution to local economic recovery by building the resilience capacities of herders by promoting peace and social cohesion, MINUSMA, through its QIPs quick impact project funding program, funded, in 2018, up to 26 million CFA francs for the equipment of certain dairy producers in the village of BaziHaoussa in the circle of Ansongo, and their training in financial management and dairy production (MINUSMA, 2020).

The beneficiaries followed, for two weeks, courses in cash management, financial analysis and techniques for the production and preservation of dairy products (MAÏGA, beneficiary).

Methodology

This study is a field survey that used a descriptive quantitative approach to analyze the impact of UN QIPs funding on the revenue and profitability of dairy product sales in the village of BaziHaoussa in Ansongo circle in Mali. .

The target population is made up of dairy producers who have benefited from training in financial management and dairy production and equipment financed by the United Nations QIPs program.

The sample for this study is made up of 28 women and 7 men who are members of the Ansongo dairy producers association. The vast majority of respondents (68.6%) have a primary education level and are between 20 and 50 years old (see Table 1).

Table 1: Composition of the study sample

VARIABLE	MODALITIES	NUMBER	FREQUENCY
Genre	MALE	7	20%
	FEMALE	28	80%
	TOTAL	35	100%
Niveau d'étude	NONE	16	45,7%
	PRIMARY	8	22,9%
	HIG- SCHOOL	7	20%
	UNIVERSITY	4	11,4%
	TOTAL	35	100%
Âge	Moins de 20 ans	3	8,6%
	De 20 à 30 ans	8	22,9%
	De 30 à 40 ans	8	22,9%
	De 40 à 50 ans	8	22,9%
	De 50 à 60 ans	4	11,4%
	60 ans et plus	4	11,4%
	TOTAL	35	100%

Source: Produced by the authors using data collected in the field

The data was collected using questionnaires over the period June-July 2022.

To synthesize the results from the collected data, statistical parameters such as percentages and averages were used.

For comparison purposes, the sample was divided into two groups:

G1 is the group of producers who have not followed training in financial management and production techniques.

G2 is the group of producers who have taken training in financial management and production techniques.

The t-tests for paired samples and for independent samples were used to compare revenue and average financial returns between and within groups before and after the establishment of the production unit.

Data processing was done with a margin of error of 5% using SPSS software.

Results and interpretations

- Different productions

All respondents (100%) produce milk (fresh and/or curdled) and among them 88.6% produce other dairy products such as liquid butter and cheese (see Table 2).

Table 2: Different productions

TYPE DE PRODUCTION	NUMBER	FREQUENCY
Milk production	35	100%
Production of liquidbutter	31	88,6%
Cheese production	31	88,6%
TOTAL COMMENTS	35	

Source: Produced by the authors using data collected in the field

- Opinion of respondents on the impacts of training on income and production

Table 3 shows that more than half (68.6% and 68.6%) of respondents at least agree that training in financial management and production techniques has improved the management of their income and their production. About ten respondents (28.5%) declared that they had not taken the training.

Table 3: Impacts of training on income and production

VARIABLE	MODALITIES	Numbers	FREQUENCY
Financial management training has improved your revenue management	Very agree	5	14,3%
	agree	19	54,3%
	Disagree	1	2,9%
	Not agree at all	0	0%
	I did not follow this training	10	28,6
	TOTAL	35	100%
Training in production techniques has improved your production	Very agree	7	20%
	Agree	17	48,6%
	Disagree	1	2,9%
	Not agree at all	0	0%
	I did not follow this training	10	28,5%
	TOTAL	25	100%

Source: Produced by the authors using data collected in the field

- Comparison of average income between and within groups before and after the establishment of the unit

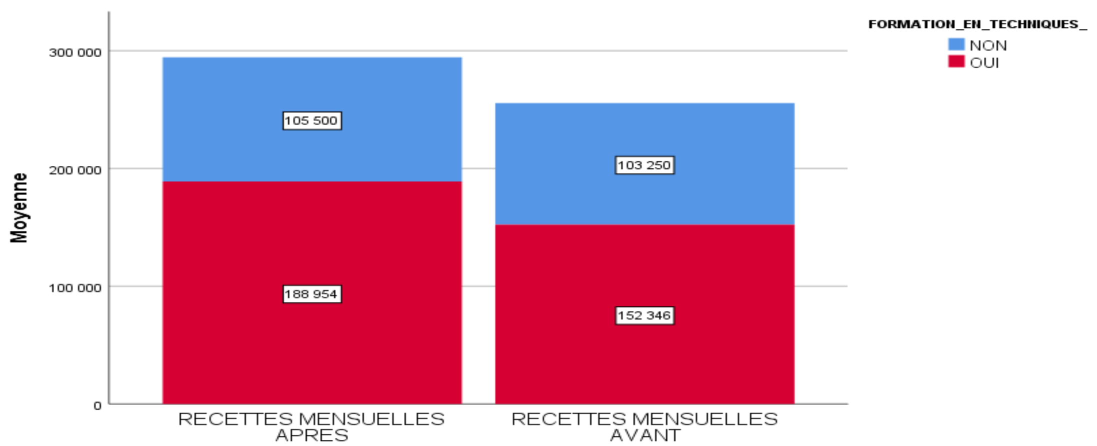
Let us denote by G1 the group of producers who have not followed the training and G2 the group of producers who have followed the training.

According to graph 1, the average revenue of G2 (152,346 CFA francs) is strictly higher than that of G1 (103,250 CFA francs) before and after the establishment of the unit.

The average revenue of G2 after (188954 FCFA) the establishment of the unit is strictly higher than its revenue before (152346 FCFA).

The average revenue of G1 after (105,500 FCFA) the establishment of the unit is slightly higher than its revenue before (103,250 FCFA).

Chart 1: Comparison of average inter- and intra-group revenues before and after the establishment of the unit



Source: Produced by the authors using data collected in the field

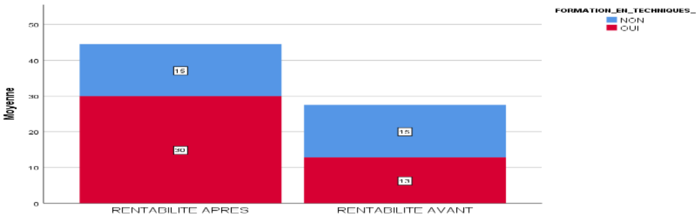
- Comparison of average returns between and within groups before and after the establishment of the unit

According to Figure 2, the average profitability of G2 (30%) is twice that of G1 (15%) after the establishment of the unit.

The average profitability of G2 after (30%) the establishment of the unit is strictly higher than its revenue before (13%).

The average financial profitability of G1 (15%) remained unchanged after the establishment of the unit.

Graph 2: Comparison of average inter- and intra-group returns before and after setting up the unit.



Source: Produced by the authors using data collected in the field

- Impacts of the project on income and on peace and social cohesion

Table 4 shows that more than half (77.1%) of respondents at least agree that the establishment of the production unit has improved, but 48.6% find that it has improved little social cohesion and peace in their locality. About ten respondents (28.6%) declared that the project had greatly improved social cohesion and peace in their locality.

Table 4: Impacts of the project on income and on peace and social cohesion

VARIABLE	MODALITIES	Number	FREQUENCY
Revenue improvement	Very agree	13	37,1%
	agree	14	40%
	Disagree	6	17,1%
	Not agree at all	2	5,7%
	TOTAL	35	100%
Improving the social cohesion and peace	A lot	10	28,6%
	A little	17	48,6%
	No way	4	11,4%
	I don't know	4	11,4%
	TOTAL	35	100%

Source: Produced by the authors using data collected in the field

1. Results of statistical tests

1.1. Result of paired-samples t-test

Based on the hypotheses Ha0, Hb0 and their respective alternatives below: Table 6 shows that with a margin of error of 5%, the significance thresholds are respectively 0.001 and 0.000 so we reject these hypotheses and we accept their alternatives i.e. it seems that the average monthly revenue and profitability of G2 before the financing is different from the average revenue after.

Ha0: The average monthly revenue of G2 before the financing is equal to the average revenue after.

Ha1: The average monthly revenue of G2 before the financing is different from the average revenue after.

Hb0: The average financial profitability of G2 before the financing is equal to the average financial profitability after.

Hb1: The average financial profitability of G2 before the financing is different from the average financial profitability after.

Table 6: Result of the t-test comparing average revenue and financial returns before and after the project:

	Paired-samples t-test							
				Confidence interval of the difference				
	Mean	Ecart-type	Mean standard error	inferior	superior	t	ddl	Sig (bilateral)
Pair 1: Monthly receipts after – Monthly receipts before	27772,9	45455,6	7683,4	12158,3	43387,4	3,6	34	0,001
Pair 2 : Profitability after - Profitability before	12,7	10,6	1,8	9,1	16,3	7,1	34	0,000

Source: Produced by the authors using data collected in the field

1.2. Independent Samples t-Test Results

- Comparison of average monthly revenues of G1 and G2 before and after financing.

Based on the hypotheses Hc0, Hd0 and their respective alternatives below: table 7 shows that with a margin of error of 5%, the significance thresholds are respectively 0.006<5% and 0.023<5% therefore we reject these hypotheses and we accept their alternatives i.e. it seems that the average monthly revenue of G2 is different from that of G1 before and after the financing.

Hc0: The average monthly revenue of G2 is equal to that of G1 before financing.
Hc1: The average monthly revenue of G2 is different from that of G1 before the financing.
Hd0: The average monthly revenue of G2 is equal to that of G1 after financing.
Hd1: The average monthly revenue of G2 is different from that of G1 after financing.

- Comparison of the average financial returns of G1 and G2 before and after financing.

Based on the He0 hypothesis and its alternative He1 below: Table 7 shows that with a 5% margin of error, the significance level is 0.000<5% so we reject the He0 hypothesis and we accept its alternative that is to say that it seems that the average financial profitability of G2 is different from that of G1 before the financing.

He0: The average financial profitability of G2 is equal to that of G1 before financing.
He1: The average financial profitability of G2 is different from that of G1 before the financing.

Based on the Hf0 hypothesis and its alternative Hf1 below: Table 7 shows that with a 5% margin of error, the significance level is 0.062 >5% so we accept the Hf0 hypothesis, i.e. say that it seems that the average financial profitability of G2 is equal to that of G1 after the financing.

Hf0: The average financial profitability of G2 is equal to that of G1 after financing.
Hf1: The average financial profitability of G2 is different from that of G1 after financing.

Table 7: Result of the t-test comparing average intergroup revenue and financial returns before and after the project

	Independent Samples Test (t-test for equality of means)						
	t	ddl	Sig(bilateral)	Average difference	Difference standard error	Confidence interval of the difference	
						inferior	superior
Monthly revenue after the project	2,9	33	0,006	83453,8	28602,03	25262,6	141645,1
Monthly revenue before the project	2,4	33	0,023	49096,2	20641,1	7101,5	91090,8
Financial profitability after the project	5,1	33	0,000	15,4	3,04	9,2	21,6
Financial profitability before the project	-1,9	33	0,062	-1,8	0,9	-3,7	0,09

Source: Produced by the authors using data collected in the field

Conclusion

This study aimed to analyze the impact of QIPs funding from the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) on the revenue and profitability of dairy product sales in the village of BaziHaoussa in the circle of Ansongo in Mali.

The empirical tests focused on data collected from 35 dairy farmers who benefited from training in financial management, dairy production techniques and QIPs funding from MINUSMA.

Our results show that all respondents produce milk (fresh and/or curdled) and among them 88.6% also produce liquid butter and/or cheese, 71.5% have taken training in financial management and management techniques.

The receipts and financial returns of dairy producers benefiting from financing and training have increased and are strictly higher than those of producers who did not take training before and after the establishment of the production unit.

As a limitation, it should be noted that our data did not allow us to know why the financial performance of the dairy farmers who benefited from the financing and who followed the training increased and is strictly superior to that of the producers who did not followed the trainings.

The results of this study reassure MINUSMA in its expectations and could help it to reinforce its participation in the economic recovery of areas affected by the security crisis. Strengthening their capacity through training increases their productivity, and the activity created through the market attenuates the effects of the crisis. They can also make an interesting contribution to the scientific literature on the subject.

For future research, we can suggest expanding the sample and integrating other independent variables that could explain the increased performance of funding and training.

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