

# Panama

This factsheet provides an overview of economic inclusion programs in Panama. Economic inclusion programs are a bundle of coordinated, multidimensional interventions that support individuals, households, and communities in raising their incomes and building their assets. The data used for this factsheet comes from the Partnership for Economic Inclusion's Landscape Survey 2023.

## COUNTRY FACTS

|                           |              |              |                            |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| Region                    | Population   | Income Group | FCV country (WB FY24 list) |
| Latin America & Caribbean | 4.35 million | High income  | No                         |

Poverty Headcount (share of population below the poverty line)

|                                 |                                       |                                |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| National Poverty Line<br>21.50% | Multidimensional Poverty Index<br>N/A | \$2.15/day (2017 PPP)<br>1.10% |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|

## PROGRAMS

Number of economic inclusion programs

6

Institutional delivery (lead agency)



■ Nongovernment-led ■ Government-led

Geographic area



■ Rural only ■ Urban/peri ■ Mix (urban & rural)

## PARTICIPANTS

Number of participants

3,536

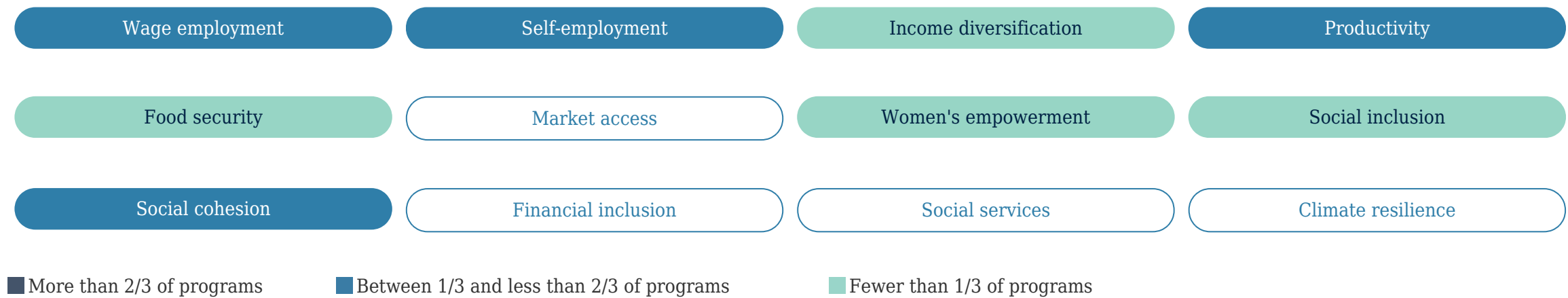
Number of people benefiting

12,977

Participants served by government-led programs (%)

92.05%

## MAIN PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

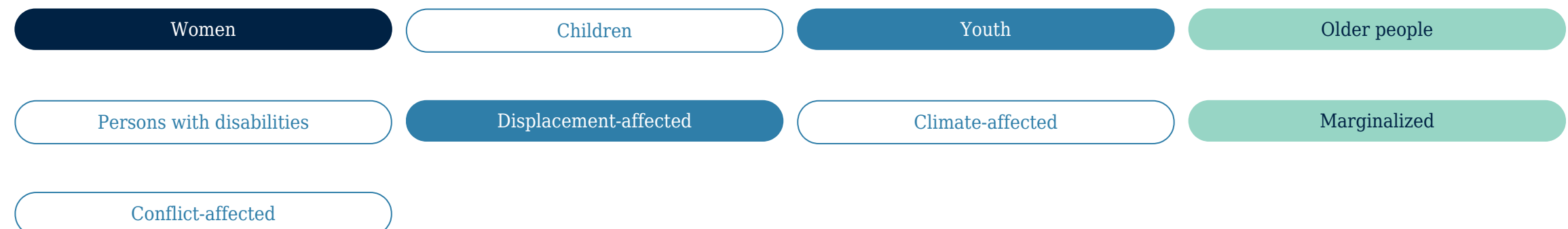


## PARTICIPANT PROFILE

Targeted Poverty Segments



Targeted Population Groups



■ More than 2/3 of programs ■ Between 1/3 and less than 2/3 of programs ■ Fewer than 1/3 of programs

## CORE PROGRAM COMPONENTS



TRANSFER



BUSINESS CAPITAL



WAGE EMPLOYMENT  
FACILITATION



SKILLS TRAINING



COACHING



FINANCIAL SERVICES  
FACILITATION



MARKET LINKS



CLIMATE RESILIENCE SUPPORT

## ECONOMIC INCLUSION PROGRAMS SURVEYED

| Program Name  | Year program began | Lead Agencies                          | Program Description  | No. of Current Participants | % Female Participants  | Poverty Targeting                | Digital |
|---|--------------------|--|--|-----------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|---------|
| Development of Territorial Networks                 | 2020               | Ministry of Social Development (MIDES) | The program includes beneficiaries of conditional cash transfer programs for territorial development, providing women in rural areas with training, technical assistance, and transfer of productive assets to strengthen social capital and enhance productivity. | 2,055                       | 76-99% of participants | Targets poor broadly             | No      |
| Entrepreneurship School                             | 2021               | HIAS                                   | The program supports vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers to develop business ideas through a general business curriculum, support on business plans, and seed capital for incubation.   | 100                         | 51-75% of participants | Targets poor broadly             | Yes     |
| Entrepreneurship School 2.0                         | 2022               | BanESCO AND HIAS                       | The program provides customized support to active entrepreneurs, helping them make their businesses more sustainable through support on formalization and value chains.  | 111                         | 51-75% of participants | Does not target by poverty level | Yes     |
| Social Cohesion Program                             | 2019               | Ministry of Social Development         | The program aims to increase the productive capacities of Indigenous populations and generate sustainable incomes by providing a combination of training, technical assistance, and asset transfers.   | 1,000                       | 26-50% of participants | Targets poor broadly             | Yes     |
| Entrepreneur Godfather (Padrino Empresario) Program | 1986               | Ministry of Social Development (MIDES) | The program targets adolescents from 7 to 15 years of age in conditions of social vulnerability regarding their psychosocial development. The program enhances their skills through internships in the private sector.   | 200                         | 26-50% of participants | Does not target by poverty level | Yes     |
| Talent without Borders                              | 2021               | HIAS with the support of UNHCR         | The program facilitates wage employment for refugees and migrants by providing training, mentorship, and employer engagement to prepare job seekers, raise awareness about migration benefits, and support companies in recruitment.                               | 70                          | 51-75% of participants | Targets poor broadly             | Yes     |

Only programs that have given their consent to share their program data are included in this table



*The Partnership for Economic Inclusion (PEI) is a global platform that unites non-governmental organizations, UN agencies, research institutions, funding partners, and the World Bank to support government adoption and scale up of economic inclusion programs that empower vulnerable people to lift themselves out of extreme poverty.*

DNA: Does Not Apply; FY: Fiscal Year; FCV: Fragility, Conflict, and Violence; MPI: Multidimensional Poverty Index; NPL: National Poverty Line; N/A: Not available; WB: World Bank