Trickle Up integrates learning objectives into all our programs in order to increase the effectiveness, efficiency, and scalability of anti-poverty programs. Our evaluations are designed to build on the existing evidence base about the Graduation Approach, including:

• **Six randomized control trials conducted by Innovations for Poverty Action between 2006 and 2014 demonstrated that the Graduation Approach increased incomes and household consumption.**

• **Evidence from BRAC in Bangladesh showed the Graduation Approach increases participants’ overall earnings, savings, assets, consumption, and diversification of income sources, and that these improvements continued even seven years later.**

• **Research in Ghana showed that the full suite of Graduation components is more effective than the asset transfer alone in increasing household assets and creating sustainable livelihoods.**

Since 1979, Trickle Up has focused on the poorest and most vulnerable, helping empower those who live in extreme poverty and face multiple levels of exclusion due to gender, ethnicity, religion, and disability. We have worked with over 200,000 households, helping to sustainably lift nearly 1 million people out of extreme poverty, in India, Africa, and Latin America.

**Evidence for Graduation**

Trickle Up integrates learning objectives into all our programs in order to increase the effectiveness, efficiency, and scalability of anti-poverty programs. Our evaluations are designed to build on the existing evidence base about the Graduation Approach, including:

• Six randomized control trials conducted by Innovations for Poverty Action between 2006 and 2014 demonstrated that the Graduation Approach increased incomes and household consumption.

• Evidence from BRAC in Bangladesh showed the Graduation Approach increases participants’ overall earnings, savings, assets, consumption, and diversification of income sources, and that these improvements continued even seven years later.

• Research in Ghana showed that the full suite of Graduation components is more effective than the asset transfer alone in increasing household assets and creating sustainable livelihoods.
PROMOTING GRADUATION

Trickle Up directly impacts the lives of people living in extreme poverty while supporting practice and policy changes among other organizations and governments to more effectively serve the extreme poor:

Community-Based Partnerships

In partnership with local organizations and municipal governments in Central America (Guatemala, Nicaragua), West Africa (Burkina Faso), and India (West Bengal, Jharkhand, and Odisha), Trickle Up refines and adapts the Graduation Approach for various contexts and populations.

National Government Partnerships

Trickle Up is partnering to integrate Graduation into social protection and poverty alleviation programs in order to enhance livelihood outcomes for extremely poor households. Trickle Up has formed partnerships with two state branches (Odisha and Jharkhand) of the Indian government’s National Rural Livelihoods Mission to incorporate ultra poor households into their existing programs. We are entering into partnerships with government entities in Paraguay, Burkina Faso, Mexico, Guatemala, and Nicaragua. We provide support through design, co-implementation, and training and management of community resource people and other field staff.

International Partnerships

Trickle Up delivers technical assistance in program strategy, design, and execution to institutions and governments seeking to include people living in extreme poverty in their development initiatives. Trickle Up partners with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), which is utilizing the Graduation Approach in five project sites with more to come. Trickle Up works in partnership with Dr. Syed Hashemi, co-founder of the CGAP-Ford Graduation Consortium.

FOCUS ON VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Trickle Up has developed significant expertise in identifying and addressing the multiple levels of exclusion faced by vulnerable populations living in extreme poverty. These include:

Women

Women make up 70% of the world’s poorest people and account for 98% of Trickle Up participants. Trickle Up focuses on women to promote empowerment within their households and communities, while taking an entire household approach to livelihood planning and development. Through savings-and-credit groups, we build knowledge related to gender inequity and injustice, taking a rights-based approach that recognizes gender injustice as a significant barrier to economic development. In 2015 Trickle Up completed a participatory video project focused on gender justice in order to deepen the integration of this issue into Graduation programs. The manual related to this project is available at trickleup.org/women.

People with Disabilities

People with disabilities are disproportionately represented among the extreme poor, yet only an estimated 3-4% of people are reached by development programs. Trickle Up deliberately includes people with disabilities in its programs and currently 13% of participants are affected by disability. Pilot programs focused on people with disabilities in Guatemala and Mali, with USAID support, have resulted in a partnership with the global disability organization CBM to integrate the Graduation Approach into community rehabilitation programs. Trickle Up has twice been awarded InterAction’s Disability Inclusion Award in 2009 and 2014 and has shared guidance on integrating extremely poor people with disabilities into livelihood programs. More information is available at trickleup.org/pwds.

Indigenous People

An estimated 50% of all indigenous people live in extreme poverty. Trickle Up deliberately targets indigenous and other ethnically marginalized groups and adapts program design to reflect indigenous worldviews, from savings group formation to the choices made during livelihood planning. We partner with indigenous authorities, including indigenous-led municipalities in Guatemala and Mexico, and ensure our programs reach scheduled tribes in India. More information is available at trickleup.org/indigenous-populations.

Refugees

The current global refugee population tops 50 million, a level not seen since World War II. The average length of time a person stays a refugee is 20 years and relief efforts must be supplemented by strong development efforts to sustainably help people move to self-reliance. Since 2013, Trickle Up has been working with the UN’s refugee agency to launch the Graduation Approach in five countries with plans to expand our partnership to 22 countries by 2019. More information is available at trickleup.org/refugees.