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**Support to implementing partners
of SORUDEV, ZEAT-BEAD and
FSTP**

**Draft Monitoring Report:
Norwegian Peoples Aid (NPA)**

**Period covered:
2 to 10 December 2015**

Prepared by Angus Graham
and Omotayo Alabi
on behalf of

**Cardno Emerging Markets (UK) Ltd
Lead Member of Cardno Consortium**



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KEY DATA

Name of Project: Support to implementing partners of SORUDEV, ZEAT-BEAD and FSTP

Contractor: CARDNO EMERGING MARKETS (UK) LTD
Address Oxford House, Oxford Road, Thame, Oxon, OX9 2AH, UK
Phone +44 1844 216500 Fax +44 1844 261593
Web www.cardno.com/emergingmarkets

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Report Quality Controlled by
Michael Gutteridge, Framework Contractors'
Project Director



Signature: _____

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Abbreviations and acronyms

AETRI	Agricultural Engineering and Technology Research Institute (Uganda)
AFIS	Agriculture and Food Information Systems
APARD	Africa Partnership Aid for Rehabilitation and Development
ATC	Animal Traction Centre
CAD	County Agricultural Department
CAHW	Community Animal Health Worker
CBO	Community Based Organisation
CFSAM	Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission
COT	Community Ox plough Trainers
CORP	Community-Owned Resource Person
DG	Directorate General
DPM	Deputy Project Manager
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EU	European Union
EUD	European Union Delegation
EUR	Euro
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FFA	Food for Asset/Agriculture
FFE	Food for Extension
FFS	Farmer Field School
FFW	Food for Work
FP	Focal Point
FSTP	Food Security Thematic Programme
GBEG	Government of Bahr-EI-Ghazal
GIS	Geographic Information System
GPS	Global Positioning System
HH	Households(??)
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MTE	Mid-Term Evaluation
NALEP	National Agriculture and Livestock Extension Policy
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NORAD	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
NPA	Norwegian Peoples Aid
PC	Project Coordinator
PFS	Pastoralist Field Schools
PO	Project Officer
(S)MAFCRD	(State) Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Cooperatives and Rural Development
SDG	State Director General
SEPA	NGO
SORUDEV	South Sudan Rural Development Programme
SPCRP	Sudan Productive Capacity Recovery Programme
SSP	South Sudanese pound
TA	Technical Assistance
ToT	Training of Trainers
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
VSLA	Village Savings and Loan Association
WFP	World Food Programme
YATC	Yei Agriculture Training Centre
ZEAT-BEAD	Zonal Effort for Agricultural Transformation – Bahr-el-Ghazal Agricultural Development

Project data

General Data

Contract beneficiary	Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)
Project Title	"Strengthening Smallholder Animal Traction Capacity and Extension Services in Lakes State"
Project ref. CRIS	FED/2013/333-512
Date of visit	02 to 10 December 2015
Location	Eight Counties in Lakes State: Greater Rumbek (Cueibet, Rumbek Centre, Rumbek East, Rumbek North and Wulu) and Greater Yirol (Awerial, Yirol East and Yirol West).
Monitoring Officer	Angus Graham and Tayo Alabi
Start date	15 February 2014
End date	14 February 2017

Financial data

Total EC contribution	€ 2,000,000 (equivalent to 90% of € 2,222,222)
Total spent by Project to date (EUR)	€ 1,125,529
Balance of funds released to date	€ 885,736
Anticipated date of next request/release of funds	Final quarter of 2015
Anticipated amount of next request/release of funds	€ 914,264

1 Summary of Field Visits

- **Introduction**

NPA has been working with the communities in South Sudan since 1986. A key area of intervention since 1985 has been training of farmers on ox plough use, training Community Oxen Trainers (COTs) and establishing a blacksmith workshop in the greater Yirol counties. Over the period 1995 to 2007 NPA trained 4,313 farmers in the use of ox ploughs and 2,230 pairs of oxen were trained under the yoke.

Over the same period, 181 Community Oxen Trainers (COT) were trained and given equipment after graduation (Yirol West: 40, Rumbek East: 28, Rumbek Central: 12). Some Community ox-plough trainers have played a vital role in re-settlement and re-integration of returning refugees. Between 2002 and 2007 COTs in Yirol East County alone trained some 816 farmers.

NPA also supported the construction of rural blacksmith workshops in Mabui, Yirol West County and Mondikolok in Kajo-Keji to meet the on-going demands for maresha ox-plough; mouldboard ploughs repairs, and the fabrication of various plough parts. The two workshops were equipped with various machines and equipment and raw materials to also train other local blacksmiths. As of 2007, Mabui workshop had produced 519 mouldboard ploughs and trained over 14 local blacksmiths.

Oxfam GB implemented an EC funded livelihoods project between 2009 and 2012 in Cueibet County, Lakes State. A key intervention area included training of CAHW on animal health, provision of animal basic drugs, and training of blacksmiths and construction of a workshop where blacksmiths repaired ox-ploughs for farmers. Implementation was done in partnership with APARD, a local CBO. County Agricultural Department (CAD) staff were involved in the training of Ox plough Master Trainers and Community Animal Health Workers amongst others.

The project was designed with the creation of linkages to an EU-funded FAO market information system project (AFIS) and EU and Spanish Aid funded FAO Pastoral Field Schools (PFS) projects in mind and to build on previous initiatives such as FFS' and PFS' and Model projects supported by the EU funded SPCR project. At inception NPA committed to ensure coordination among active projects in target group identification and selection, and harmonizing and building and synergies in training and input distribution activities where possible.

Currently NPA has the following active projects: Food Distribution (WFP), Vaccination (FAO), Water (Netherlands), Conflict transformation and community DRR (NORAD).

- **Meetings SMAFCRD and SMARF in Rumbek**

On Wednesday 02 December and Friday 04 December 2015 the monitoring team comprised of the EU-TA, Samuel Deng, Rose Dawa and John Makur (NPA) and Ezana Kassa (FAO) met with Hon. Phillip Kot Job, State Agriculture Minister (Lakes), Mr Daniel Thon, State focal point (FP) to the EU SORUDEV Programme, Ezekhiel Magkok SDG (State Director General Agriculture, and Barnaba Chol Makoy and Daniel Thon (double role) State Directors of Agriculture and Mechanisation.

The DG for agriculture and livestock highlighted the following sector issues for the attention of the participants:

- The project is conducting well its work in the three areas of developing extension services, animal traction and markets. The Ministry nominated the Agriculture Director as project focal point to ensure good collaboration with NPA.

- Coordination with the SORUDEV project is proceeding smoothly. NPA is based in the premises of the Ministry, project steering committee meetings are chaired by the DG, the focus is on general activities over the past month and challenges, and the DG participates in SORUDEV quarterly review meetings.
- NPA has conducted a training needs assessment, and a tool has been developed for capacity development.
- Staff who are seconded to the project are kept on the Ministry payroll and will return to the government at the end of the project. The Ministry Supervisor of Animal Traction was seconded to the project because he is an experienced trainer in the use of ox ploughs and knows how to manufacture spare parts. He opened the Animal Traction Centre in Matangai that is functioning.
- The project distributed motorbikes, bicycles and laptops/printers to all CAD. Some computers have not yet been installed in CADs without offices.
- There has been progress in capacity building, with twenty three (23) trainers sent to Yei for extension training and now they are in the field. The support from NPA is highly appreciated. The ministry is very interested in more long-term training and highlighted this as a priority need for further assistance. The Ministry is interested to extend the level of this training up to the diploma level.
- There has also been progress in training people who did not previously know how to repair ox ploughs. People were sent to Mabui for training and this has resulted in farmers getting more spare parts for their ox ploughs.
- The project has established two centres for the manufacture of ploughs, each with good workers.
- Ministry of agriculture has supervised closely the training of farmer groups in all counties, including 10 veterinary groups for which accounts are currently being opened. Mr Peter Majur is being replaced by Rose Dawa to lead the value chain and markets activities of the project.
- An issue raised by the SDG is that NGOs have a poor track record in delivering seeds on time (often late). People are being trained in vegetable production near rivers and boreholes – these seeds need to be made available on time.
- Next year NPA will provide seed producers with loans. Technical support will be needed for this activity, in order to ensure good germination and performance of the seeds. Seed stores are needed for all farmers.
- Though NPA has an M&E system in place but it is yet to be rolled out and to develop the appropriate tools.
- The DG raised the importance of introducing GIS mapping of activities. This is needed to register NGO partner activities and in order to advise new projects. There is a need for this kind of support in order to avoid many NGOs focusing their efforts in the same areas, e.g. Payams close to urban centres and in counties where there is peace and security.
- The DG confirmed the UNIDO inclusion of support to development of the groundnuts value chain in Lakes State in its EU funded ZEAT-BEAD project, i.e. groundnut processing machines, because it is an area of surpluses of groundnuts. He also raised the need for a system of buying large quantities of crops from big farmers and distributing them as seeds, and facilitating transportation of crops for sale in Juba.
- The SORUDEV project has reached half way.
- EU funded FAO Pastoralist project started with ToT with Ministries of Education and Agriculture and Livestock Departments. Training is done in three categories: children of 7 to 14 years of age, youth aged 14 to 19, and adults > 29 years of age. The first group is taught in a kind of school, the second group is taught to read and write, as well as sports and cattle management, and the third group are taught income generation activities. Once an implementation work-plan has been completed, the curriculum will be discussed. The project started very well in an inclusive manner. The State Ministry invited one person to join the steering committee and nominated

one person from each county with skills in extension for training. The way the project has started it looks like it will be an excellent project. This project involves / engages ministry staff in implementation of the project and reporting. Facilitators will live in and move with the cattle camps. They will be there despite any insecurity, protected by the community.

The Minister of Agriculture and livestock highlighted the following sector issues for the attention of the participants:

- The scheduled visits of the monitoring team to Yirol East and West and to Akot have been cancelled due to insecurity. Instead meetings have been arranged with groups in Rumbek Centre.
- Rumbek is composed of 8 counties subdivided into a total of more than 59 Payams. The main tribes are the Dinka (99%) and the Jur. The Dinkas are of three main groups the Agar (cattle movers) the Gok (greater Rumbek) and Atuot, Aliap, Ceic, (greater Yirol)
- The main concerns are: 1) Insecurity due to conflicts related to marriages, cattle theft, water and overgrazing; and 2) Inaccessible roads (2 main roads) due to quarrels between military forces and local communities and due to flooding. The issue of security is being addressed by the State Government, while that of the roads is the responsibility of the National Government.
- Currently the most secure areas are Awerial, Yirol East and West and Wulu. Insecurity is highest in Rumbek and Cueibet.
- Despite daily fights and killings the project staff of NGOs are doing their work unaffected because communities appreciate the services they are providing. The teams are moving and agencies are rarely directly affected.
- The Ministry of Agriculture launched a Policy Statement this year with support from the NPA. Self-reliance and import substitution of food (currently being supplied from Uganda, Kenya N. Sudan) are a national priority. The Ministry had been very active in mobilising communities to produce all they can this year, but results have been poorer than expected due to erratic rains.
- Mostly farmers in the State plant 9-month duration long sorghum varieties (Harvested in Jan) and only a very few plant 3-month shorter varieties, except in Awerial where there is more short duration sorghum. Short duration sorghum yields well and allows for a double crop. Awerial is the only area in the state not affected by hunger this year. There will be a big food gap in the state next year.
- In the past (50s) the State used to export groundnut, SimSim, and Sorghum, and some millet. These are still the priorities of the State.
- In the past Lulu was processed for oil in all Counties except Rumbek North. The fruit is good to eat and the seed yields high quality oil for soap and cosmetics. Lulu and SimSim and maize are three areas that the State is also immediately interested in developing further.
- NPA is working well together with the Ministry, and recently supported the Farming Day and Tree Planting Day Campaigns of the Ministry. NPA is most needed in assisting with Extension Training in the Counties. CAD extension workers need 1) Training and 2) Facilitation of their work (bicycles and motorbikes). Beneficiaries are happy with the work of NPA. Cooperation and coordination among staff and partners is proceeding very well.
- Late delivery of seeds by NGOs is a recurring problem in the State, they need to arrive at least by Jan/Feb. If seeds arrive as late as June they will inevitably be eaten and not planted. This has occurred where agencies have not been cooperating closely with the Ministry of Agriculture and NPA in the field. The Ministry recommends to partner with an agency other than FAO in the field of seeds delivery or find a better alternative solution.

- Most seeds that have been supplied to the State have come from neighbouring countries. The policy of the Ministry is to focus on local seeds, increasing their availability and accessibility. A priority is the establishment of experimental farms to conduct field trials. This is key to improve the economic status of farmers through production of local surpluses. The Government has created a Research Department/ Office in the State Ministry. A qualified officer to be director of research is urgently needed.
- Feeder roads are very important when targeting 1) Women, 2) Youth Groups affected by Conflict, 3) Returnees (considered hard working), and 4) War Heroes. New roads are needed to bring harvests to main roads, especially for groups who currently cultivate at considerable distances from any roads. They are also essential for the supply of fuel to tractors needed to expand the area under cultivation.
- The recent disagreement with the Governor concerning the proposed EU funded feeder road has made the outlook difficult in this regard but the Ministry is still hopeful this could be achieved, after the introduction of the new States in which case the proposed roads in question would fall outside the mandate of the current Governor.
- For the moment the priority is to extend to other areas training in the manufacture or at least the repair of ox ploughs. The Ministry of Agriculture wants every rural household to have at least one ox plough. Suppliers were offered a tax break as an incentive to import these implements, however they have not done so because they are aware that people cannot yet afford them because they are expensive to supply under the current circumstances. To date Awerial is the only area that is not using ox ploughs at all, instead they continue to use hand tools despite them having cattle.
- Food gaps and insecurity continue today because the Youth no longer value farming as a way of life. In the past they worked on their family farms on a seasonal basis but these days they do not return from the cattle camps to undertake such duties. Projects targeting youth in camps are well liked by the Government, but they are sceptical about any possible successes in the absence of a thorough and complete disarmament of Gelweng youths (cattle protectors) in cattle camps. Forceful disarmament is now likely to be the only option that could work. In addition some legislation is needed concerning cattle driving, such as penalties for any damages caused.
- Systems for delivery of water for agriculture production during the dry season (eg women vegetable gardens) need attention. Currently they are mostly producing on small plots using water they pump from boreholes which is a very laborious process. Good quality pumps (not Chinese) powered by solar systems are urgently needed if expansion of vegetable production is to be a sustainable. Bicycles are also needed for transporting produce to market.

- **Visit to Malith Rural Blacksmith Centre in Rumbek**

This workshop group has 12 members among 48 blacksmiths of which 38 have so far been trained by the project (14 were trained in Mondikolok and 24 in Mabui). Two members of the group were trained as master trainers in Uganda on use of machines and production of ox drawn implements such as ploughs, planters and weeders (sprogs, handles and mullboards). At this stage rural blacksmiths only produce ox plough spare parts.

The project foresees the production of 1200 ox ploughs over the life of the project. Currently there is a materials shortage (plates, bolts), although some thicker plate brought from Uganda is still available. Some needed materials used to be available from agro-dealers but these have ceased to become available.

Some equipment is still missing such as thick sheet cutters, grinders, and drilling and welding machines. There are some specialist shops in Rumbek with machine tools that can provide some essential cutting and joining services.

Four plots of land (SSP 960 each) has been procured by the blacksmith group. The title deed map is in the process of being issued. An eight member VSLA has been formed, each member is contributing SSP 400. A bigger group of 32 people is contributing to the procurement of the land.

- **Visit to Matangai Animal Traction Centre in Rumbek**

This centre used to be owned by the Ministry of Agriculture, it is now owned by the County. It is located in the same compound where the NGO SEPA has worked in the past. Vegetable production by a group of women is also taking place at this location, but they have not yet started a VSLA under the project.

The development of the centre has been slow. It now has 4 staff trainers, and two buildings and a fenced area have been erected. The centre is being used to train COTS, and during the rainy season local farmers will come to the centre for training. A trainer still needs to train the other three master trainers in the use of ox drawn implements.

Since April this year a total of 42 COT and pairs of bulls have been trained in the centre, 14 from Rumbek East and North Counties, 12 from Rumbek Centre and Cueibet, and 16 from Wulu. Training is taking 9 days on average instead of the period of 3 weeks initially foreseen. Trainees are from CAD who after receiving their ToT training will train farmers i.e. the Centre's staff train COTs who will train farmers.

Community trainers have not yet received demonstration equipment (e.g. demonstration ploughs) because these are still being manufactured. At this stage farmers come for training with their bulls and ploughs. Locally made ploughs are on sale for SSP 1200 each with agro-dealers. Local blacksmiths will eventually produce ox-drawn ploughs, weeders and planters.

In January NPA will start to complete the training of COTs, 84 in Greater Rumbek and 54 in Greater Yirolo. So far 57 have been trained.

- **Visit to Nyankot Women's Farmer VSLA Groups in Rumbek**

Three groups of about 30 people each named Daam (Reinforcement), Puonmit (Happiness) and Warpirich (Change in way of living) started in August 2015 who meet every Friday to contribute their savings of SSP 25 per person per week and to take loans at 20 % interest. The group is happy to make loans within the group because they know each other. This has allowed loans as high as SSP 1000. Before the start of the VSLA access to credit in an emergency was very difficult.

Registration to join the VSLA is SSP 5. Anyone wanting to join would also need to pay the equivalent contributions made to date by the other group members. Loans (typically 400 SSP + 80 SSP interest) are taken to cover medical and food expenses of sick children, school fees, vegetable seeds and hand tools, and village level trade in sugar, biscuits, and rice. Loans are paid back every 30 days. The VSLA box is used as a point of transit between deposits and loans.

The groups reported increased respect from their husbands as a result of the VSLA and greater inter household trust to visit markets. The main benefit reported was reduced worries about caring for children. Their main issues concern delivery of water for growing vegetables and the cost of agricultural implements such as watering cans, hand tools and ploughs. The

groups identified the following recurrent challenges going forward: 1) Distance from market, 2) Watering of plots, 3) Labour to work hand pumps, 4) Shortages of water 5) and 6) Insufficient seeds.

All groups produce vegetables at two water points. Plots are managed on an individual basis. Three main types of vegetables are produced: Kudura, spider plant, and pumpkin. The groups have not yet received training in vegetable production. They are growing vegetables to meet their needs. Kudura is sold in the Rumbek market as a source of income.

Next year the groups will produce cereals and groundnuts from saved seeds but individually cannot afford to buy an ox plough at the current price of SSP 1,500 although they recognised they could do this in groups of two or three persons. With 4 months ahead until the next main planting season, only 3 or 4 of the 90 members with sufficient funds to procure Ato buy a plough.

NPA was advised to bring ploughs to the various group meetings for direct procurement by the groups. ACROSS another NGO operating in the State has ordered 170 ploughs that are in the process of being delivered from Juba, which they will sell at a subsidised price of SSP 1,500. The NPA extension worker lives in the village of the three groups.

- **Debriefing Meeting with SMAFCRD and SMARF in Rumbek**

On Wednesday 09 December 2015 the monitoring team comprised of the EUD-TA, Samuel Deng, Rose Dawa, John Makur, Abraham Madid (NPA) and Ezana Kassa (FAO) met with Mr Daniel Thon, State focal point (FP) to the EU SORUDEV Programme, Ezekiel Magkok SDG (State Director General Agriculture, and Barnaba Chol Makoy and Daniel Thon (double role) State Directors of Agriculture and Mechanisation.

- NPA is a friend of the Ministry of Agriculture since a very long time. Government is very happy with the progress of NPA under the project, and Government will seek to manage to address anything lacking. Ox plough training was first introduced and adapted in Lakes by NPA in 1998. A major limitation has been the availability of distributors of ploughs, consequently Government is very pleased with the progress at Matangai and Mabui.
- The EUD-TA reviewed the progress made by the project in strengthening teamwork, use of government extension workers and the project steering committees; training on blacksmithing and the use of Ox ploughs, VSLA methodology and extension; development of a loan mechanism and organisation of farmer/producer group associations and inputs suppliers.
- NPA was requested to prepare and submit to EUD to Juba by the end of the year (2015) the draft TORs for the project mid-term independent evaluation. The project manager highlighted that while the project team on the ground has come up with an M&E template it would appreciate some support on its finalisation.
- The project was advised to develop further the understanding and work-plan under result 3 (possibly through hosting a stakeholder forum) and seek to establish concrete linkages with UNIDO and FAO under the ZEAT-BEAD programme in this regard.
- The project was also advised to place additional focus on the collection of information on the results of its activities and apply the M&E tools developed by the project with reference to the baseline, make more progress on the inclusion of more female staff in the field, considering that many of the beneficiaries are women.
- NPA informed out that yield assessments have been done under the project in 32 Payams and that the report will be forthcoming. It was noted that most sorghum grown in Lakes is of the long duration variety and that the only short duration crop is groundnuts.

- The EUD-TA pointed out that the SORUDEV programme and project strategies are important to keep in mind. They raised the importance of the farmer / VSLA groups getting access to the inputs they need, ox ploughs in particular, and the importance of creating / encouraging the start of agro-dealerships.
- Exchange visits to other projects in South Sudan to get some ideas on how to support agro-dealerships and producer groups have previously been recommended and should be pursued. The project was also requested to make a commitment to joint publication of the extension guide prepared under with SORUDEV programme partners in GBEG.
- NPA informed it is scheduled to receive some training by WFP on the use of GPS/GIS instruments, and also noted that although NPA has supported staff development through sending people to YATC for training, and recognises it is also important for them to learn how to do things on the ground. The government is aware the current internal and external training is not sufficient and would like to establish stronger linkages (1 to 3 year diploma) to colleges and universities but recognises there is insufficient provision for this in the NPA project budget. Based on the guidelines received at project formulation no long term studies were foreseen. NPA funded some ministry staff to attend short courses ranging from 3 months and below. NPA is also carrying out internal capacity development of the ministry staff.
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- Ministry of agriculture highlighted that while all their extension workers have been trained, they wish to further extend this in the form of longer-term training. Consequently they have requested all NGOs to propose and support 2 to 3 candidates for longer-term training.
- Measuring results beyond the training provided is important. This will require a slight change in mind-set and application of what has been taught. The animal traction ToT activity started in December 2014 with the development of necessary structures, consequently a season of training of farmers was lost. COTs have not yet started training of farmers on the use of ox ploughs. NPA will support all the actors to ensure the training takes place in 2016 and will collect information on the results.
- Agencies involved in Relief should leave some development behind and should be mindful to at least make meaningful synergies coherent with sustainable solutions to on-going problems. NGOs and Ministry Departments collectively need to work from a common strategy that crosses the relief/rehabilitation/development guides. This should be crosscutting and multi-sector in nature considering that the rural beneficiaries are usually the same groups.

2 Key findings/Notes on project development

Overall level of progress on implementation

- **Animal traction component**

NPA has identified 136 Community Ox Plough Trainers (COTS), 80 CAHWs, and 48 local Blacksmiths, and has recruited 8 oxen trainers, 8 workshop blacksmiths, 02 oxen keepers and 2 security guards under the animal traction component of the project. Procurement of workshop blacksmith equipment and local blacksmiths toolkits and attire is almost complete, these items are currently being transported to Rumbek from Juba.

NPA has also provided 1 weeks training to 57 COTS and 80 CAHWs on ploughing and livestock health, has sent 4 artisans and 2 oxen trainers on a three week course in Namelere, Uganda, on fabrication of tools and use of ox drawn implements, and has trained 38 blacksmiths in Mabui/Mondikolok for three weeks on the fabrication of ploughs. As a

result 28 pairs of oxen and 63 farmers were trained (60 male & 3 female) in ox ploughing. While COTS training has started there is no data yet on the number of farmers they have trained. NPA extension agents need to follow-up and get this information.

Acquisition of a plot for establishing the Malith Blacksmith workshop is nearly completed. Local authorities are issuing this week the land certificate following which suitable structures will be erected. The Mabui Ox Plough Unit is in the process (cutting, punching and pending) of producing the following parts: 100 each of Mouldboard bodies, handles, progs, supporters and wheels; about 60 handle stays, zigzags, and 20 to 30 shares and landslides.

In addition it has produced 30 axes and 20 chisels for use by the Animal Traction Centre (Mabui). Welding of a generator, a grinding mill, two plough wheels and 6 hinges were carried also carried out for customers at cost. The unit has assembled 107 ploughs, of which it sold 10 at SSP 800 each. Currently 97 assembled ploughs are available. Total projected income based on current inventory and services provided is estimated at SSP 120,000.

- **Market access and value chain Component**

A total of 57 VSLA groups have been formed in Lakes State with a total cumulative saving to date of 200,284 SSP by a total of 1,411 members (Male 563, Female 848). Overall SSP 189,000 of this is currently out on loan and will generate SSP 37,800 in interest earned on loans. Total social fund contributions for emergency expenditures amount to SSP 74050. All groups were trained in leadership/management skills, group byelaw development, record keeping, and village saving loan association methodologies. Among these a total of 8 veterinary sub-groups developed business plans.

So far 25 of the groups have received saving boxes and stationary. The number of VSLA boxes fabricated has been constrained by the current inflation rate, which has resulted in raw materials for fabrication not being available in the market. Currently, NPA is looking to source boxes from Juba instead of fabricating them locally in Rumbek in order to meet the current shortfall. NPA will continue with fabrication/buying of the village saving loan association boxes.

So far 7 veterinary pharmacy business development plans have been made and approved pending transfer of loans funds to a loan committee account. There are vet pharmacies groups in each of the counties. Except for one, seven Veterinary private extension agents groups have prepared their business plans and will be given loans through a committee that has been set up. The NPA focal point is the head of committee at state level. County loan committees will have a supervisory role. Funds from the state committee will go straight to groups.

Over the course of the coming months plans are underway to continue to provide training to VSLA groups and continue with the formation of village saving and loan association groups, conduct one business plan appraisal event by a loan committee at county and state level and provide loans to 7 vet groups appraised by the loan committee. In addition producer groups and processor groups will be trained and their organisation into farmers associations developed.

On the recommendations of the previous TA Monitoring Report

Integrating SORUDEV into what was initially a largely relief-orientated programme has required the development of synergies with other projects implementation. For instance, the project is targeting graduated food for asset/agriculture (FFA) famer groups who are now using the VSLA approach to local access to credit.

A participatory M&E system has been developed by the project staff in the field. NPA now has tools in place for data collection by or on the behalf of NPA/the Project, state authorities and third parties. The crop assessment template circulated by EU is also being used along with other simple templates the team developed. In order to increase the focus on individual farmers in groups NPA Project officers and extension workers are setting farmer objectives in terms of saving, agriculture production and income generation considering that the project measures of success (indicators) are at the individual level and not groups.

There is lack of specialised agro-dealerships in Lakes State. The few dealers in tools e.g. mouldboard ploughs do not supply spare parts. The blacksmith units of Mabui and Matangai are currently the only sources not only for spare parts but also ploughs production. The existing workshop at Mabui needed a mechanism to become viable and to enable artisans to become independent ways to establish a commercial ox-plough facility in Rumbek sought. NPA has commercialized the Mabui ox plough production unit, this also involved entering into an MoU agreement with Mabui blacksmith unit for training local black smiths. The Matangai blacksmith centre has acquired workshop tools/equipment and 4 artisans and 2 ox plough trainers graduated from Namelere were provided samples of implements. All are now set for production, however are constrained due to the current inflation. The issue of double ownership of Matangai Animal Traction Centre is now resolved. The centre remains an animal traction centre.

The project team is working well together and the coordinator is getting necessary support from the team members. The head of each component are working together to ensure synergy because the team understands that success of one component without success of the other does not mean SORUDEV success. All VSLA groups have been established and vet pharmacies trained on business skills and finance. NPA is using government extension workers to train the VSLA groups. Each VSLA is working as a credit institution with internal objectives concerning achievement set by the target group members.

State and county levels meetings are taking place and coordination and linkages with other projects is being developed. The project has 9 steering committees, 1 at State level and 1 in each of the Counties. The State level steering committee meets quarterly while the County level committees meets monthly. The SDG chairs the committee at State level, NPA Project Coordinator secretary and directors of other directorates are members. At the County level, the executive director chairs the committee, CAD inspectors, secretary etc.

Deteriorating road conditions and shortages of fuel in local markets have reduced access to some Project areas. NPA has prepositioned fuel stock during wet season when roads are not passible.

The increasing trend of uncontrolled livestock movements, resulting in destruction of agricultural crops, especially sorghum still needs attention. NPA has identified that legislation and a compensation mechanism through the state is required. This will require a process of disarmament of cattle keepers and a return to law and order and a regular way of farming life.

Main strengths

NPA has been collaborating well with counterpart Ministry staff and has involved them in direct implementation of the project within the framework of a signed MoU and exist strategy. NPA has been successful in involving beneficiary groups in the project processes and creating awareness of its aims and modes of operation. Target producer and blacksmith groups have understood well the project.

Main weaknesses

SORUDEV is a pilot that has required some adjustments and adaptations of expectations among counterparts and beneficiaries. Some government staff had initially not grasped well the project concepts.

Challenges identified during the TA mission in October 2015

Understanding of some aspects of the project is still lacking among some senior government staff, particularly with regards to value chain and market aspects of the project and concerning the organisation of producer groups. This is due to a predominance of relief-oriented projects in the sector and interests in the creation of political unions rather than producer owned associations with production and marketing objectives. Opportunities presented by ZEAT-BEAD need to be well coordinated and planned, and should build on initial contacts which should be sustained.

Further actions required

NPA should:

- Update work plan
- Address the gender balance among its staff and the beneficiaries it reaches;
- Continue to set the agenda and lead coordination meetings with the SMAFCRD;
- Establish (together with the SMAFCRD) a number of working briefs in the fields of: a) Geographical Information System (GIS)-referenced registration of activities by various partners; b) human resource development; c) the formation of producer groups and cooperatives; d) Value Chain points of leverage; e) post-harvest production, management and marketing; and f) Crop and food supply forecasts;
- Circulate to the monitoring team its:
 - Detailed work schedule with quarterly targets
 - Breakdown of funding expenditure to date
 - Procurement plan and quarterly expenditure forecasts
- Commission an external mid-term evaluation (MTE) as foreseen under the project;
- Ensure to collect relevant project information against its baseline;
- Proceed with planting and harvest forecasts and crop production estimates; and
- Develop further in consultation with UNIDO and FAO the component 3 of the project.

Changes to project context

The deteriorating economic situation in South Sudan has adversely affected the socio-economic situation of beneficiaries, with high inflation and price volatility affecting farmers exacerbated by impassable main Roads to the State. Armed skirmishes along key roads, although not targeting project staff are intermittently impairing movement of staff to project sites.

Progress toward achieving project objectives in summary

- Overall objective: To contribute to increased food security, reduced vulnerability and enhanced livelihoods of rural households in South Sudan.
- Specific objective: Increased agricultural production & income of smallholder farmers in Lakes State through strengthening extension services that effectively reaches smallholders.

On achievements against each specific result

- *R1*: Increased adoption of good practices that increase production & reduce production losses through strengthened Extension services delivery system.

According to the rider, number of extension workers was reduced to 24 (3 per county). Out of the 24, 22 were trained for 3 months in basic agriculture at YATC and also attended 5 days training on the extension guide. So far they have trained 2,244 smallholder farmers (1496 women /748 men) using various extension packages developed. About half of the trained smallholder farmers are using improved agronomic practices (e.g. early planting, mixed and intercropping, row planting and early weeding) and accessing extension services.

- *R2*: Increased adoption of animal traction amongst smallholder farmers to increase cultivation area and crop production

NPA has Trained 57 COTs all men (42 Matangai and 15 Mabui) on ox plough technology, provided refresher training to 80 CAHWs for five days, and has trained 24 local blacksmiths on fabrication of parts and plough maintenance at Mabui ox plough unit. So far the unit has produced various components for about 55 ox ploughs. NPA also trained 4 artisans & 2 oxen trainers for a month in Namelere, Uganda on fabrication and use of implements, and 14 local blacksmiths on fabrication and repair of ox plough parts. The 2 animal traction centres are now hosting COTs / farmers training.

- *R3*: Improved market access & linkages among value chain actors, including producer groups

The loan process to 7 Vet pharmacies is completed and an amount is now being remitted into stallholder loan accounts being managed by State loan committee. The committee is comprised of the Director of Agriculture (SORUDEV focal person) chair, Rural Development department staff, and CAD staff working as counterparts in the project. So far, 53 VSLA groups are saving and giving credit to their members. NPA has managed to provide 25 VSLA boxes to those practicing. There has been a 33% increase in use of VSLA.

Sustainability of the Action

Sustainability of the project will depend on a real peace process and disarmament of youth, a reduction in insecurity and violent incidents, and accessibility of roads to main sources of essential supplies and products – two main roads Juba-Yirol-Rumbek (floods and conflict) and Rumbek-Wulu-Juba (conflict). It will also depend on broader political buy-in to the SORUDEV process. Linkages with ZEAT-BEAD programme are important to add technical value to the project.

Group formation is an essential component of the project. It is building on existing groups developed by FAO under the SPCRP project. Some Food for Work (FFW), Food for Assets/ Agriculture (FFA), and Food for Education (FFE) groups formed by WFP are also being incorporated by the project. The latter tend to be very big, focused more on receiving relief than any production work, as the amount of food received from WFP is proportional to the number of people in the group. The project is seeking to make groups provided with food as an incentive to farm more independent and self-reliant (typically these groups are supported by WFP in a one-off delivery for a year and are only eligible to receive food for one year), by splitting and supporting groups that have graduated i.e. the year after receiving food in which they are no longer eligible for a second round food. Targeting of graduated groups is working well, there is more group stability and less double dipping across years into the WFP programme.

Cross-cutting and other issues

- *EU Visibility*

The project has been successful in raising the visibility of the project and the EU has a donor in the State.

- *Gender issues*

In Juba NPA has a many female staff but in Lakes State there is only one woman on NPA staff (Dawa from Central Equatoria State) under the project. There is one female government extension supervisor (Pricilla) and 4 extension worker counterparts. Most beneficiaries are women (66 %). NPA needs to ensure gender disaggregated data under the project are collected.

Summary of key lessons learnt (as per discussions with the project team)

- Government authorities are still very relief minded and considerable work still needs to be done before they fully embrace development. Since the start of the project in Lakes State, NPA has highlighted that the project is a development project with a different approach to the abundant relief projects in the region. Despite the efforts to enhance the State Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry understanding of the project it is evident the project approach is still not well understood, they are still talking of seed distribution in various meetings.
- The VSLA and FFS approach was neither in the original design of the programme nor the projects of the SORUDEV partners, but were added as major aspects of the project to facilitate credit among producer group members so they can collectively source seeds and tools. The addition of VSLA activities to the project was not liked by the project staff and counterparts, nevertheless its adoption is taking place very rapidly in Lakes State by first targeting groups for extension and then adding VSLA activities (to such an extent that many members are coming to join in the VSLA components from outside these groups).
- Perceptions of local authorities have constrained the privatisation of blacksmiths from Matangai. They did not fully appreciate the extent to which the project is meant to benefit local people nor the supportive role of NPA. Local authorities could not see the project as something for the benefit of blacksmiths. Legalisation of land ownership is a condition for NPA to support the establishment and continual development of the blacksmith group capacity. This activity has been delayed due to reticent buy-in of local authorities, but is now progressing.
- At the beginning of the project NPA anticipated the existence of agro-dealers that could be linked to beneficiary producer groups. The idea of distinguishing producer groups and farmers groups has been quite a challenge for NPA. While there are some trader/ dealers who sell some types of seeds and tools, and some producers of seeds are selling them in the market, there are no specialised agro-dealers. Local seed supplies are from a few people gathering and processing some seeds (eg Okra and Jews Mallo).
- There are no producer groups that have specialised in seed production. There is a need to register seed producers and link them to institutions. The development of producer groups and marketing groups need further attention, including individuals who are gathering together seed (e.g. vegetables), and a comprehensive understanding and strategy at the programme level should be developed. NPA is advised to raise this at the next coordination meeting of Programme Managers and address this in collaboration with FAO to pick up on this.
- When the project proposal was written, it did not have UNIDO in mind nor was the ZEAT-BEAD programme formulated yet. The project was conceived as a stand-alone

intervention bringing together ideas and experience from previous projects as a bridge for developing and refining the start-up of future projects. As such the project proposal did not contain any new ideas. NPA has supported UNIDO in its market survey, has identified several agro-processors but has not made much progress in the development of agro-processing groups. It is not too late in the project to take this up to support the efforts of UNIDO in the ZEAT-BEAD project.

- The biggest challenge for NPA has been how to come up with a farmers union at state level. Farmers associations first need to know the objectives of their associations. It has been difficult to lead them to understand the importance of this and for them to own the process. County level associations made of farmers group representatives (typically 5 groups) are now in place in each county and representatives in these associations are to form the union at state level charged with identifying ways to get produce to market and with lobbying government for support. In the end farmers want to take produce to the market, that is easier in a group but not easily reached individually.
- Problems have arisen due to disagreements on the process of formation of associations and the farmers union. Previously there was a political association at State level but it was not effective in jointly addressing challenges, identifying links in value chains that can be supported, and nominating representatives to solve problems and find markets. A political option would involve the nomination of representatives at the Payam level by a local chief. However in the interests of functional associations / state union it is considered best that chiefs are not formally involved with farmers groups in this regard and that the objective of farmers organization should primarily be not political but for the benefit of the farmers. These disagreements led to a delay in the process, the biggest hurdle is at state level due to interference by people who favour a union of political interest. Farmers need to own the union not the politicians and create active forums for discussion and sharing of information. On the next monitoring visit in six months' time it should be possible to meet the new farmers associations.
- Provision is made in the project for a stakeholder forum. The project proposed to host a half day lessons session and the coming SORUDEV QRM Steering Committee Meeting in January 2016. Given the lessons learned to date there is a lot of work to be done to make government officials and other stakeholders aware of the project and to fully understand it. On this occasion it will be important to reiterate what was discussed and agreed at various meetings. A forum that involves all the development partners should follow this meeting.

3 Programme Schedule¹

Day	Time	Event	Responsibility
1/12/2015		Arrival of the team to Rumbek	
2/12/2015	10:00-11:00 am	Meeting with Focal person SORUDEV, DG, Minister and other officials	Samuel Deng
	2:00-3:00 pm	Visiting Malith Blacksmith Centre	Chol
	3:00-3:40 pm	Visiting Matnagai Animal Traction Centre	Chol
3/12/2015	9:00- am	Travel to Rumbek East	Samuel Deng
	10:00-10:30	Meeting with County Authority & CAD	All
	11:00-12:00 am	Visiting Gok-akon farmer group	Arop/Dawa
	12:00-2:00 non	Visiting Loorwo farmer group	Dawa/Arop
	2:00 noon	Travel to Akot (spend the night in Akot)	All
4/12/2015	9:00-11:00 am	Visiting Thempiny farmer group (Aluak luak)	Priscilla/Makoi
	11:00-1:00 pm	Visiting Mabui ox plough production unit	Priscilla/Makoi
	2:00 pm	Travel back to Rumbek	Samuel Deng
7/12/2015	Whole day	FAO	Ezana
8/12/2015	Whole day	FAO	Ezana
9/12/2015	10:30 am	Visiting Piirpath Rumbek Centre	Arop Ateny /Dawa
	2:30-3:00 pm	Debriefing	NPA / Govt staff
10/12/2015	TBA	Monitoring Team Departure	M. Team

¹ Schedule was sequentially set back day-by-day due to continued insecurity in the region. As a result the monitoring team was restricted to areas in Rumbek Centre, following consultation between NPA and UNDSS.

4 People met and activities visited

NPA Staff		
Names	Position	Telephone
Samuel Deng	Project Coordinator – Head of Office	0955571483
Peter Majur	Senior Project Officer – Value Chain and Markets	
Abraham Mading	Senior Project Officer – Extension Services	0955206047
John Makur	Senior Project Officer – Animal Traction	0955465828
Rose Dawa Martin	Agribusiness Supervisor – Greater Rumbek Counties	0954461353
Jiovbani Makoi	Agribusiness Supervisor – Greater Yirol Counties	0929687717

Govt Staff		
Names	Position	Telephone
Arob Ateny	Extension Services Supervisor – State Govt.	
Barnaba Chol Makoi	Director of Animation Traction – State Govt	

Farmers' Field Group Members	
Names	Gender
Agany (Cueiet)	24 (men / women)
Pan-rak (Cueibet)	24 (men / women)
Gok-akon (Rumbek East)	38 (men 23 / women 15)
Loorwo (Rumbek East)	37 (men 13 / women 24)
Thempiny (Yirol West)	25 (14 men/ 11 women)
Bakita konybai (Yirol West)	25 (14 men / 11 women)
Mat-chieng (Yirol East)	25 (2 men / 23 women)
Lukutweng (Yirol East)	25 (17 men / 8 women)
Piirpath (Rumbek Centre)	26 (men 11 / women 15)

VSLA Group Puonmit			VSLA Group Waipirich	
S/n	Names in Full	Gender	Names in Full	Gender
01	Mary Achol Akhol	F	Martha Akoi Madit	F
02	Mary Yom Makoi	F	Awal Maker Achinguac	F
03	Martha Aluaal Marol	F	Debora Nyanthuoi Ayany	F
04	Halen Yom Marial	F	Awau Makoi Monyethel	F
05	Mary Akol Mean	F	Mary Akoi Malual	F
06	Mary Akol Ajar-nget	F	Akol Kedit Daak	F
07	Mary Amok Kedit	F	Akunyir Chol Mayuen	F
08	Ayen Makur Maker	F	Akuchuol Malual Atony	F
09	Lou Yuol Liabeny	F	Dier Malual Kodi	F
10	Nyitur Makoi Manyuen	F	Kuortok Matong Mayo	F
11	Mary Adol Makoi	F	Ayen Makuac Majur	F
12	Apen Chieng Diany	F	Anhiak Matueny Chol	F
13	Yom Nyac Gum	F	Akor Machuol Chiam	F
14	Martha Akuac Maduol	F	Alual Akhol Bol	F
15	Yar Makoi Lei	F	Debora Amakou Machuei	F
16	Debora Apiny Gor	F	Yar Akhol Lual	F
17	Achol maguen Nuer	F	Aweng Apac Lual	F
18	Nyipot Bai Wuol	F	Ayen Mapour Dut	F
19	Akujang Muou Manyuat	F	Nyibeny Kumbai Neck	F
20	Akol Wai Gum	F		
21	Agok Malee Rengu	F		
22	Athouwar Kechuol	F		
23	Mary Achol Mading	F		

5 Picture Gallery



Row Matnagai Animal Traction Centre, Rumbek



Nyankot Women's Farmer VSLA Groups in Rumbek



Malith Rural Blacksmith Centre, Rumbek

Annex 1 Project Summary

Title of the Project	"Strengthening Smallholder Animal Traction Capacity and Extension Services in Lakes State"
Implementing Agency	Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) South Sudan Country Office
Location(s) of the action: specify country(ies) and region(s) that will benefit from the action	State: Lakes State (Lakes), South Sudan Counties ² : Rumbek East, Rumbek Central, Cueibet, Wulu, Yirol East, Yirol West, Awerial Rumbek north) Payams ³ :
Total duration of the action (months)	24 months from 15 February 2014 to 14 February 2017
Objectives of the action	Overall objective: To contribute to increased food security, reduced vulnerability and enhanced livelihoods of rural households in South Sudan. Specific objective: Increased agricultural production & income of smallholder farmers in Lakes State through strengthening extension services that effectively reaches smallholders.
Target group(s) ⁴	The groups/entities (smallholder farmers) who will directly benefit from the action
Final beneficiaries ⁵	Those who will benefit from the action in the long term at the level of the community or sector at large
Estimated results	R1 – Increased adoption of good practices R2 – Increased adoption of animal traction and increased cultivation area R3 – Improved market access & linkages among value chain actors
Main activities	A1 – Training and extension services for smallholder groups, A2 – Training on ox plough, CAHW, blacksmith, provide kits on loan and raw materials A3 – Development of farmers organizations and associations A4 – Loan scheme committees, and LOC to producer groups A5 – Market access and value chain addition activities; A6 – Strengthening farmer organizations and value chain actors' organization A7 – Strengthening market information flows
Number of each type of technical staff	FS Agriculture – 3 Sustainable agriculture /animal health– 2 Agribusiness specialists – 2

² County: an administrative unit in South Sudan immediately below the State

³ Payam: an administrative unit in South Sudan immediately below the County, equivalent to a District

⁴ "Target groups" are the groups/entities who will directly benefit from the action

⁵ "Final beneficiaries" are those who will benefit from the action in the long term at the level of the community or sector at large

Annex 2 Project Staff

Name	Gender	Position	Telephone	Email
Samuel Deng	M	Project Coordinator – Head of Office	0955571483	Sdeng@npaid.org
Abraham Mading	M	Senior Project Officer – Extension Services	0955206047	AbrahamM@npaid.org
John Makur	M	Senior Project Officer – Animal Traction	0955465828	jjohng@npaid.org
Rose Dawa Martin	F	AB Supervisor – Greater Rumbek Counties	0954461353	dawar@npaid.org
Jiovanni Makoi	M	AB Supervisor – Greater Yirol Counties	0929687717	jjovanimakoi@gmail.com
Maker Boung Aher	M	Animal health officer	0955894559	MakerB@npaid.org
Emmanuel Leju	M	AT Supervisor – Greater Yirol Counties	0955112832	lejukole2015@gmail.com

Annex 3 Work Plan: July 2015 to December 2015

Activities	7	8	9	10	11	12	Implementing body
Result 1							
Continue with need identification of 800 farmers and training of 3200 farmers							S. project officer (Ext) / supervisors / extension agents
Continue with extension package development							(PC / PO / DPM)
Result 2							
Training of 138 community oxen trainers							S. Project officer (AT) / Supervisors / Trainers
Training of 34 local blacksmith							Blacksmith trainers / Supervisors
Training of 1200 farmers on animal traction							Oxen trainers / Supervisors
Facilitate establishment of two animal traction centres							S. Project officer (AT) / PC /DPM /Log
Result 3							
Identify 7 producer groups and development of business plan for 19 producer groups, identify 12 agro-processing groups and support to 8 vet pharmacies, and identify 12 input/output and market actors							Project officer (AB) /Supervisors Extension workers
Identification and sensitization of more VSLA groups and training of 92 VSLA groups on principles of VSLA 2							Supervisors / S. Project officer (AB) Extension workers
Form 8 county level farmers association and 1 state level farmers union 3							Project officers / Supervisors Extension workers
State level annual stakeholder forum and 1 quarterly review meeting 4							PC / Project officers /DPM /EU

Annex 4 Progress toward achieving objectives

Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Update as of June 2015	Update as of Dec 2015
<p>Project Objective</p> <p>To contribute to increased food security, reduced vulnerability and enhanced livelihoods among rural households in South Sudan</p>	<p>20% increase in household food security in Lakes State (baseline 8%)</p>	<p>A baseline study has been conducted as part of the Inception Report preparation process. OVIs are now based on baseline data As per the Inception Rider, the baseline data was used to revise and clarify the OVI</p>	
<p>Specific Objective</p> <p>Increased agricultural production and income among smallholder farmers in Lakes State through the strengthening of extension services that effectively reach smallholders</p>	<p>50% increase in the agricultural production/yield of target groups in Lakes State (baseline 0.7 tonnes per household)</p> <p>50% increase in the average household income of target groups in Lakes State (baseline 876 SSP per annum)</p>	<p>As per the Inception Rider, the baseline data was used to revise and clarify the OVI and logframe.</p> <p>As most of the target groups are smallholder farmers, the OVIs should be achievable.</p>	<p>Data on agricultural production is collected but still under analysis.</p> <p>Data on this outcome is being collected</p>
<p>Results</p> <p>R1 - Increased adoption of good practices that increase production and reduce productive losses through strengthening of the extension services delivery system in the 8 Counties of Lakes State</p>	<p>75% of targeted smallholder farmers adopt good practices from the defined extension packages (baseline 25%)</p> <p>85% reduction of post-harvest losses among targeted smallholder groups (baseline loss 50%).</p> <p>50% increase in the number of smallholder farmers accessing extension services (baseline 12%)</p>	<p>Baseline conducted, 32 targeted Payams identified, 32 extension workers and 2 extension supervisors identified and deployed to the Payams,</p> <p>16 of the 32 extension workers already trained on a 3-month basic agricultural course at Yei CTC. Induction training conducted of 42 counterparts (extensionists, supervisors and CAD Directors).</p> <p>122 farmer groups identified for support, Extension package developed. Assessed training needs of 3,060 persons (122 groups), Need based training of 1,575 smallholder farmers (65 groups)</p> <p>32 bicycles and 8 motorbikes to extension agents in the Payams</p> <p>Capacity assessment of CAD offices (computers, printers), 70 T-shirts to Project staff and counterparts, 149 T-shirts to launch the farming and tree-planting season.</p>	<p>According to the rider, number of extension workers was reduced to 24 due to poor performance. No replacement was made. 24 extensions workers identified 3 per county Out of the 24, 22 (18 men / 4 women) were trained for 3 months in basic agriculture at YATC. Out of 24 extension workers 22 (17 men and 5 women) were trained for 5 days on extension guide.</p> <p>Trained 2244 (1496 women /748 men) smallholder farmers on various extension packages developed. About 1247 (44%) of the trained smallholder farmers are using improved agronomic practices (e.g. early planting, mixed and intercropping, row planting and early weeding.) Some 55 % of smallholders farmers accessing extension services</p> <p>Data on post-harvest is not yet collected!</p>

Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Update as of June 2015	Update as of Dec 2015
			<p>Distributed 30 bicycles and 7 motor bikes to extension workers and supervisors in the Counties</p> <p>Capacity assessment of CAD carried out. Printers and computers distributed to CAD offices in the Counties</p>
<p>R2 Increased adoption of animal traction among smallholder farmers in the 8 Counties of Lakes state in order to increase the area under cultivation and improve crop production</p>	<p>20% increase in the number of smallholder farmers using ox-ploughs (baseline 45%)</p> <p>75% increase in the average area cultivated by targeted smallholder farmers (baseline 2 Feddan per household)</p> <p>20% increase in the number of smallholder farmers using animal traction for other farming activities in addition to cultivation (baseline none)</p>	<p>2 ox-plough training centres will be established at Mabui (existing) and in Rumbek for training trainers (COTs). 138 COTs will be trained over 3 years. 189 trainees already identified.</p> <p>2 animal traction supervisors and 8 ox-trainers deployed. 8 blacksmiths identified for two workshops. 136 COT identified, 15 trained. 48 local blacksmiths identified, 14 trained. 25 pairs/teams of oxen trained and 57 smallholder farmers trained.</p> <p>Purchasing of raw materials (mild steel plates) is on-going. 4 artisans and 2 COTs are undergoing training in Namelere (AETRI) Uganda in the fabrication of ox-drawn implements.</p> <p>2 animal traction centres have been established at the Mabui and Matangai ATCs.</p> <p>80 CAHWs have been identified and retrained for 5 days and a business plan for the CAHWs developed.</p>	<p>Trained 57 COTs all men (42 Matangai and 15 Mabui) on ox plough technology.</p> <p>Provided refresher training to 80 CAHWs for five days.</p> <p>Trained 24 local blacksmiths on fabrication of parts and plough maintenance at Mabui OPU. So far unit has produced: 84 spogs, 21 landslides, 102 mouldboard bodies, 104 handles, 32 shares, 60 supporters, 60 zigzags, 60 handle stays and 50 wheel (bent). About 55 ploughs. Number sold not yet reported. Trained 4 artisans & 2 oxen trainers for a month in Namelere, Uganda on fabrication and use of implements. Trained 14 local blacksmith son fabrication and repair of ox plough parts. Raw materials for Mabui ox plough production centre completed and fabrication work started. The 2 animal traction centres are now hosting COTs / farmers training.</p> <p>0.3 Feddan increased in average area cultivated</p>

Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Update as of June 2015	Update as of Dec 2015
<p>R3 - Improved market access and linkages among value chain actors and producer groups in the 8 Counties of Lakes State</p>	<p>25% increase in the number of targeted smallholder farmers accessing inputs from local input suppliers (<i>baseline 2%</i>)</p> <p>25% increase in the marketing of produce through local markets (<i>baseline 31%</i>)</p> <p>50% increase in smallholder farmer participation in farmers' institutions (<i>baseline 7.5%</i>)</p>	<p>Agro-dealers, agro-processors, producer groups, operatives and unions. Expected outcome of organising 8 County-level farmers' associations is not clear?</p> <p>Overall, the team will need to collect, and analyse the Year 1 data and estimate the percentage achieved</p> <p>Groups are being selected, loan committees formed, appraisal checklist developed, formation of farmers' associations prepared,</p> <p>Staff trained on preparation of business plans, 7 business plans prepared, business plan template developed for two blacksmith centres.</p> <p>36 staff (29 men and 7 women) trained in VSLA, 2 workshops on VSLAs, 50 groups started VSLA, 371 members saved 50,980 SSP. 10 of 92 savings boxes distributed.</p>	<p>Apart from Mabui OPU and Matangai blacksmith centre smallholder farmers are also accessing tools from other suppliers (agro-dealers) in Rumbek and Yiroi. e.g. mouldboard ploughs</p> <p>The team has started data collection at all levels of 7 Vet pharmacies loan process is completed and amount is now remitted into stallholder loan account being managed by State loan committee. The committee is comprised of 1. Director of Agriculture (SORUDEV focal person) chair, 2. Rural development department staff, 3. CAD staff working as counterpart in the project.</p> <p>So far, 53 VSLA groups are saving giving credit to members. NPA managed to provide 25 VSLA boxes to those practicing. 33% increase in use of VSLA.</p>

Annex 5 Challenges and follow-up actions

	Observations during the EU Field Mission in October 2014	Action taken/recommended during the EU Field Mission in June 2015	Update as of Dec 2015
Integrating SORUDEV into a largely relief-orientated programme	NPA will need to be conscious of possible contradictions and confusion among beneficiary communities facing different agendas in the same geographical area.	The mission established that SORUDEV has been well integrated into NPA programming in Lakes State.	SORUDEV developed synergy with other projects implementation. For instance, graduated FFA famer groups are now using VSLA approach which is one of the main approach in credit facility
The existing workshop at Mabui needs a mechanism to become viable and to enable artisans to become independent.	All Mabui Centre workshop buildings, machine tools and equipment and raw materials either belong to or are provided by NPA. In Nov. 2014 only three blacksmiths were still working at the workshop due to shortages of generator fuel and other raw materials. Previous NPA efforts with cooperatives and enterprise groups collapsed.	NPA has established and supported a private-led, commercialised blacksmith operation in Rumbek Town.	NPA has commercialized Mabui ox plough production unit. NPA entered into an agreement with Mabui blacksmith unit by signing a MoU for training local black smith. Matangai blacksmith centre has acquired workshop tools/equipment, facilitated by NPA. Delivery will be taken care of by the organization.
How to establish a commercial ox-plough facility in Rumbek.	NPA intended to provide all required project inputs to the Rumbek group for free. In light of the Wau Resolution, NPA must finalise a convincing alternative approach. The development of local ox-plough manufacturing capacity should include development of business management capacity in logistics, finance, and marketing.	A market for blacksmiths has been set up. Six artisans sent to Uganda for specialised training. 4 specialising in spare part s and 2 in implements (e.g. weeders and planters). Their management skills of need strengthening. The groups should become a cooperative, with VSLA to facilitate access to credit.	4 artisans and 2 ox plough trainers graduated from Namerere. The 4 artisans came with samples of implements. All are now set for production
Data collection on behalf of NPA/the Project, state authorities and third parties	NPA must put in place a functional data collection system for project reporting purposes. Data collection tools need to be developed and staff trained in their use. It may be necessary to co-opt other actors into the system.	A simple data collection tool prepared. The technical and management capacity of the project team in M&E still needs to be improved.	A participatory M&E system has been developed by the project staff in the field. NPA now has these tools in place
Deteriorating road conditions, shortages of fuel in local markets reduce access to some Project areas	Disruption to road travel and breakdowns in the delivery of essential supplies are an annual occurrence and predictable. NPA will need to preposition essential supplies.	This has remained a major challenge in the State and has been further exacerbated by prevailing insecurity across most parts of Lakes. NPA is managing the challenges well (at increased cost).	NPA prepositioned fuel stock as a remedy to shortage during wet season as roads are not passible.
Uncontrolled livestock movements, resulting in destruction of agricultural crops, especially sorghum	Movement of livestock often results in tension and conflict between communities (e.g. Wulu County). Fencing is largely non-viable. Imposition (by local courts) of fines recommended.	Most farmers in Lakes State are agro-pastoralists. The main challenge remains the internal insecurity. The support of the State and County authorities is highly commendable.	Legislation and a compensation mechanism id required. This will require a process of disarmament of cattle keepers and a return to law and order and a regular way of farming life.

<p>State and county levels meetings, coordination and linkages with other projects.</p>	<p>Establish a Steering Committee at State Level and quarterly meetings. County-level meetings with representatives of all key stakeholders should also be held monthly. Strengthen and broaden the coordination and sharing of information with other implementing agencies in the State and with other SORUDEV projects especially in the areas of Farmer Field Schools (FFS) and VSLAs. Increase coordination with and EU-funded ZEAT-BEAD projects.</p>	<p>Established 9 steering committees 1 at State level and 1 each of the Counties. The State level steering committee meets quarterly while the Counties level committees meets monthly. The DG chairs the committee at State level, NPA Project Coordinator, secretary and directors of other directorates are members. At the County level, the executive director chairs the committee, CAD inspector secretary etc.</p>
<p>Project Leadership</p>	<p>The Project team needs to ensure that the Project Coordinator is supported to lead the team and strengthen team spirit, thereby minimising emphasis on individual components. Senior management should support the Project Coordinator where appropriate. There is need to ensure that female members of target groups are adequately represented at decision-making levels (e.g. the Steering Committee and other committees) and are empowered.</p>	<p>The project team is working as a team and the coordinator is getting necessary support from the team members. Head of the components are working together to ensure synergy because, the team understands that success of one component and failure of the other does not mean SORUDEV success!</p>
<p>M&E management, data collection and analysis</p>	<p>Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) is weak. The Project does not have a simple or workable M&E system. This is recognised as an issue and there is a need for senior management in Juba to support the Project to develop such a system over the next few months Strengthen the functioning of M&E within the Project. The crop assessment tools developed and circulated by the EU to all SORUDEV programmes should be used. NPA should reach a consensus with FAO on shared data collection. Share all collected and analysed data with the AFIS team within the State Ministry.</p>	<p>NPA SORUDEV team at the field level developed an M&E system for the project. Crop assessment template circulated by EU is also being used along with other simple templates the team developed</p>
<p>Animal Traction Centre title deed</p>	<p>The proposed animal traction centre in Matangai Payam in Rumbek Centre County has double ownership. Ownership of the land be clarified and a land title secured. This issue was raised with the State Minister and Director General who have committed to support the Project team to resolve it;</p>	<p>The issue of double ownership of Matangai Animal Traction Centre is now resolved. The centre remain traction centre.</p>
<p>Increasing access to agricultural inputs</p>	<p>Prioritise the establishment and training of all remaining VSLA groups. Ensure that the recruitment of agro-dealers is completed in good time to facilitate the prepositioning of farming inputs before the planting season. Establish well-understood linkages between agro-dealers and VSLAs/farmer groups before the onset of the rainy season.</p>	<p>There is lack of agro-dealership in Lakes State as a matter of facts. The few agro-dealers in tools e.g. mouldboard ploughs do not supply spare parts. That leaves blacksmith units of Mabui and Matangai the only sources not only for spare parts but also ploughs production.</p>
<p>Breadth versus depth of assistance</p>	<p>More emphasis is currently placed on groups than on individual farmers. Ensure that Project officers and extension workers set objectives with each farmer in each group in terms of VSLA-related activities; targets for agricultural production and income; and any challenges/needs that they expect the Project to help them address over its duration.</p>	<p>NPA has established emphasis on individual farmers. The team has taken note of this since indicators measure individuals and not groups. Each farmer's objective on VSLA related activities are now established.</p>
<p>Training of County-level NPA and Government staff</p>	<p>Prioritise timely agronomic practices. Conduct refresher trainings in i) VSLA methodology for all groups; and ii) business skills and financial literacy for VSLA and agro-dealer groups.</p>	<p>All VSLA groups is established. Vet pharmacies are also trained on business skills and financial literacy.</p>
<p>Exist strategy and sustainability</p>	<p>Review the Project exit and sustainability strategy jointly with Government and stakeholders and ensure it is clear how each component (extension services, animal traction, VSLAs and input supply) will be sustained after the Project ends</p>	<p>NPA uses government extension workers who train the VSLA groups. VSLA works as a credit institution for internal objectives achievement by the target group members.</p>

Annex 6 Work Plan: January 2016 to June 2016

- Mobilization & training of 49 smallholder farmer groups
- Re-training of 131 groups
- Retaining of 24 extension workers on extension communication strategies
- Training of 3-4 extension workers in basic Agriculture and specialized course in Yei
- Trainings of COTs & local blacksmiths
- Training of farmers & oxen on animal traction
- Production of ploughs and spare parts, assembling of ploughs, repair & maintenance
- Procurement, delivery and installation of BW equipment
- Monitoring & evaluation
- Tree nursery establishment
- Demonstration & trial of ox-drawn implements in ATCs
- Loan disbursement to successful vet pharmacies groups
- Organize a State level annual stakeholder forum with a view for lobby and advocacy
- Continue engage local authorities on BW privatization
- Exchange visits by COTs, Oxen users and Oxen trainers
- Construction of Matangai Blacksmith Worker shelters
- Training support to 12 agro-processing groups and 12 input/output market actors
- VSLA groups training/support

Activities	1	2	3	4	5	6	Implementing body
Result 1							
Training of 150 (120W/30M) smallholder farmers on developed extension package "Rumbek North"							Extension workers/supervisors
Conduct retraining and monitoring of trained smallholders farmer groups							Extension workers / supervisors
Carry out state level implementation review							Technical project staff (PC / PO / DPM) Partners and EU TA
Result 2							
Supervise production of 1200 ploughs by Mabui OPU and operationalization of Matangai blacksmith centre							Artisans / Supervisors
Continue with training stallholder farmers and oxen on ox plough technology 2							Animal traction staff (oxen trainers) / supervisors
Training of 1200 smallholder farmers on animal traction							Oxen trainers / Supervisors
Facilitate / promotion nursery tree planting at animal traction centres							S. project officer / supervisors / Traction staff
Result 3							
Training of 24 producer groups, and identify 12 agro-processing groups and provide training support Continue monitoring the 7 vet pharmacies who received loans and support 1 in Rumbek North.							Project officer (AB) /Supervisors Extension workers
Continue with VSLA groups mentoring 2 (Title: train producer groups on VSLA and setting up saving activities)							Supervisors / S. Project officer (AB) Extension workers
Continue support to farmers association and 1 state level farmers union							Project officers / Supervisors Extension workers
1 State level annual stakeholder forum and 1 quarterly review meeting							PC / Project officers /DPM /EU

Annex 7 Operational Payam & Boma GPS Information

SORUDEV Coverage Lakes State				GPS Coordinates				
S/no	County	Payam	Boma	Latitude	Longitude	Attitude		
1.	Rumbek East	Atiaba	Dongic	N06°34' 14.27"	E029°57'59.02"	428.3m		
			Maboric	N06°36' 13.09"	E029°55'49.01"	526.5m		
			Karic	N06°36' 56.80"	E029°54' 46.95"	286.3m		
		Aduel	Thonic	N06°37'45.1'	E029°53'83.9'	441m		
			Billiing	N06°30' 17.14"	E029°46' 12.29"	431.5m		
		Pachong	Panawac	N06°39' 32.05"	E029°47' 57.55"	471.9m		
			Biling	N06°41' 29.21"	E029°47' 26.19"	452.8m		
		Chueichok	Biling-chok	N06°43' 55.20"	E029°45'7.24"	419.3m		
			Patir	N06°44' 4.14"	E029°43' 55.60"	429.9m		
		2.	Rumbek Central	Matangai	Aber	N06°52'18.7'	E029°34'51.6'	418m
Nyangkoot	N06°52.150'				E029°40.237'	418m		
cholochochok	N06°48.960'				E029°38.566'	421m		
Matangai	N06°49.128'				E029°38.836'	444m		
Jiir	Abin-ajok			N06°44.30'	E029°39.54'	----		
	Abarkou			N06°49'41'	E029°40.57'	----		
Amongpiny	Mopeer,			N06°47'.104"	E029°42'.294"	425m		
	Adol							
3.	Cueibet			Ngap	Ngap centre	N06°50.988'	E029°13.349'	441.9m
					Kilo 7	N06°51.369'	E029°13.212'	445.3m
		Malou-yuol	N06°53.542'		E029°12.940'	446.8m		
		Aceminti	N06°56.482'		E029°13.748'	437m		
		Malou-pec	Alel	N07°01.622'	E029°14.706'	429.2m		
			Achol-malek	N07°01.433'	E029°12.771'	430.4m		
			Agany	N07°02.119'	E029°11.426'	429.2m		
		Duony	Barieth	N06°58.017'	E029°22.374'	425.8m		
			Anyot	N06°59.499'	E029°22648'	415.7m		
			Abiriu	Biling-anger	N06°56.296'	E029°25.471'	417.3m	
Amolbut	N06°55.391'			E029°26.325'	417.9m			
Marial-Akeeng	N06°58.471'	E029°21.364'		420.3m				
4.	Wulu	Wullu	Wullu-gadim	N06°26.398'	E029°36.902'	488m		
			Wullu centre	N06° 30.199'	E029° 37.542'	506m		
		Bhar- gel	Gulmar	N06°56.909'	E029°47.97'	---		
			Mayege	N06°58.986'	E029°56.983'	--		
		Domoloto	Domoloto	N06°14.965'	E029°37.272'	504m		
			Doteku	N06°13.417'	E029°36.910'	519m		
		Makundi	Dokuru	N06°21.848'	E029°37.918'	503m		
			Domanjo	N06°17.411'	E029°39.328'	504m		
		5.	Awerial	Puluk	Mingkamen	N06°03'20.8"	E031°30'41.5"	437m
		Bun agok	Gour Beny	N06°12'38.7"	E030°59'54.1"	444m		
		Abuyung	Riaga	N06°20'33.9"	E031°08'56.6"	436m		
			Berken	N06°20'02.3"	E031°09'25.8"	435m		
			Wun kum	N06°21'45.5"	E031°06'14.1"	447m		
		Dor	Malou	N06°03'05.5"	E031°17'06.4"	436m		
	N06°03'20.8"		E031°30'41.5"					
6.	Yirol West	Aluak-luak	Aluak-luak	N06°28'23.88"	E030°05'57.47"	424.1m		
			Agany	N06°26'13.15"	E030°03'18.52"	447.7m		
		Mapuordit	Agutraan	N06°17'48.78"	E030°06'48.27"	388.6m		

SORUDEV Coverage Lakes State				GPS Coordinates				
S/no	County	Payam	Boma	Latitude	Longitude	Attitude		
			Pokic	N06°23'50.98"	E030°04'57.46"	472.1m		
			Mabui	N06°23'26.68"	E030°03'37.42"	453.7m		
		Abang	Yirol town	N06°34'.891"	E030°28'.81"	426m		
			Panliet	N06°36'.294"	E030°32'.246"	429m		
			Pankar	N06°34'.892"	E030°28'.909"	433m		
			Pakeu	N06°36.294"	E030°32'.246"	396m		
		Gengeng	Matbar	N06°20'02.2"	E031°08'56.7"	457m		
			Banylom	N06°31'.923"	E030°33'.277"	461m		
			Pabuor	N06°25'.994"	E030°36'.418"	453m		
			Akoikoi	N06°28'.659"	E030°35'.566"	432m		
			Panliet	N06°34'.937"	E030°31'.445"	436m		
		7.	Yirol East	Tinagau	Alel,	N06°44'.601"	E030°27'.710"	444m
					Acigor	N06°42'.676"	E030°29'.866"	438m
				Pagarau	Macuor	N06°45'.199"	E030°26'.141"	434m
Pagarau	N06°44'.577"				E030°25'.192"	422m		
Lieng	N06°37'.985"				E030°37'.985"	437m		
Malek	Tiot			N06°45'165"	E030°44'.652"	432m		
	Amercier			N06°45'.652"	E030°47'.631"	431m		
	Malek Centre			N06°43'.254"	E030°47'.787"	430m		
8.	Rumbek North			Malueth	Aciek,			
		Aliet						
		Kak						
		Meen	Wundhiot,					
			Amok					
			Meen					
		Madol	Maper centre,					
			Makuac,					
			Rumkoor					
		Wurieng	Rorbar					
			Camcuer					
			Wurieng					

Annex 8 Exit and Sustainability Strategy

Introduction

A project approach is characterized by its short-term duration and intensive resource utilization during a limited project period. Every intervention has a beginning and an end. The South Sudan Rural Development programme (SORUDEV) will be implemented in a period of about 36 months with effect from June 2014 in Lakes State. There is a goal to be achieved by the end of the project period of which deliverables are spelt out clearly. The project will be implemented with coordination and collaboration with various stakeholders here in the State and a national level as well.

An exit strategy is like a sustainability plan of the project. The main concern of an exit strategy is the continuation of activities and maintaining the flow of benefits initiated by the agency. The exit strategy is basically a plan explaining on how the project intend to withdraw its resources while ensuring that achievement of the project objectives are not jeopardized and that progress towards these objectives will continue. The goal of an exit strategy is to ensure the impacts of the project are sustained.

The Phasing out of a project demands certain steps to ensure benefits the community had been getting will continue. There are different points to observe before deciding to exit from an area. Basically those concerns are not only to sustain the benefits the community was provided by the project but also to maintain the achievements of the project and meet emerging new challenges of the community in the sector. Among the many points to be considered, the sustainability of the project activities, institutional capability and community involvement could be the few ones.

The three points are very much inter-linked. Some project activities are community based and their sustainability after the implementing organization leaves could be assured. In other cases the capacity of institution that will take over from the agency could determine the continuation of the activities. The strength of the institutions to continue with the project activities is also determined by efforts the project had put in to build their implementation capability. Following meeting held with the State Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the SORUDEV exit strategy for Lakes State is developed. The plan looks at the design of the project, key stakeholders & their role; and institutions and resources that will ensure sustainability of the project impact.

Locations of the action:

The project will be implemented in eight (8) Counties of Lakes State and these are: Rumbek Central, Rumbek East Cueibet, Wulu, Yirol West, Yirol East, Awerial and Rumbek North.

Overall objective:

To contribute to increased food security, reduced vulnerability and enhanced livelihoods of rural households in South Sudan.

Specific objective:

To increase agricultural production and income of smallholder farmers in Lakes State through strengthening extension services that effectively reaches smallholders.

There are three components under this project through which the objectives will be achieved:

Component 1: Strengthened extension service system

Component 2: Increased adoption of animal traction among smallholder famers.

Component 3: Increase market access and strengthening linkages between value chain actors.

The project will work in close collaboration with various stakeholders including the State Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry; Ministry of Animal Resources and Fisheries; the target groups, the county Agriculture Department, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, NPA, SORUDEV implementing partners, other NGOs; and CBOs. The project was launched on 9th of June 2014 in Lakes State at the premises of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. H.E. the Deputy Governor of Lakes State officially declared the project launched.

During the launch, the scope of the project, locations of the action, activities and the roles of NPA as well as the role of the ministry of agriculture and other stakeholders were clearly spelt out. The launch was subsequently followed by implementation plan which drew project management both at Juba level, field level and the ministry's key staff from the Counties and the headquarters in the State. During the implementation plan, the roles of the ministry and that of NPA were further explained.

South Sudan Rural Development Programme (SORUDEV) is designed in a way that sustainability of the programme would be ensured when NPA finally pulled out. NPA's experience in implementing similar activities in the past showed that imposed institutions easily fallout when the project's implementation ends. Given this fact, the project will build on previous efforts of similar projects with funding from the EU for instance; SPCRP and AFIS.

The project will be guided by the National Agriculture and Livestock Extension Policy (NALEP). In this regard, NPA designed to fit into the state level as such this programme will be based in the premises of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry at the State level and County Agriculture Departments at Counties level.

This way, NPA will engage and work very closely with the ministry's extension staff in the project as counterparts. As the project engage the Ministry Staff in the day to day operation of the project, their implementation capacity will be built. At the end of the project, the ministry staff will ensure continuity.

Agricultural extension service delivery

At the core of the extension service delivery are the 32 Payam – level extension agents that will be engaged from each of Counties and State ministry to the project to work at Payam- level. NPA will build in its experience of working with government extension agents in its various projects. An initial effort to ensure the extension staff have the basic agriculture technical skills and knowledge to provide the required extension and training during the project is already underway as 16 of these extension agent were sent to NPA run Agriculture and Training Centre in Yei (YATC) for basic agriculture training immediately after the project launch. Continuous on job trainings to build their capacity on extension methodologies, facilitation skills and agriculture will be done aiming at leaving a cadre of agriculturist at Payam level that could identify emerging agricultural challenges and seek solution.

A written MOU has been formulated together with the State Ministry on the roles & responsibilities of NPA & the Ministry with eventual re-absorption of the extension staff. During the implementation period of the project, the extension staff will be supported with allowances (as a top up to their salaries), transport & communication capacities. This is a tested & tried formula NPA has used in other States to actively engage government extension staff & build their implementation capacity.

Animal Traction

The project is designed to use a Community Ox plough Training (COT) approach that is self-sustaining. On the front lines of the promotion of the technology are the COTs that are selects by fellow farmers at village level. They will be trained as trainers. The COTs will provide training

services to the community on voluntary and with minimum cost arranged and decided by them. The approach will leave authorities on animal tractions and skilled trainers at village level for the continuous promotion of the technology after the end of the project.

The Animal Traction centres will be used to train COTs, and farmers in new animal drawn implements. This centre will be managed by the project in partnership with the State Ministry of Agriculture. The State Ministries capacity to manage it will be built during the project period. The Centres will be phased over to the ministry at the end of the Project period.

The local blacksmith that will be trained and equipped by the project will ensure that skills are available to repair and maintain the implements at village level. This will ensure the sustainable utilization of the technology. The two Rural Blacksmith Workshops will be run, managed and owned by blacksmith groups who are already engaged in the repair and manufacturing of plough parts.

The CAHW approach in the state had been introduced during the 21 years of war. The CAHWs will receive training on animal health and management of drugs. The CAHWs will be linked with private and community veterinary pharmacies to continue providing animal health services after the project ends. The Ministry of Animal Resources and Fisheries will be engaged in monitoring and supervision of the CAHWs for quality control. NPA will link the CAHWs with FAO pastoralist field Schools project so that they have effective link with the vet drug suppliers.

Value Chain Actors

The value chain actors include 24 producer groups, 12 agro-processing groups and 12 input/output market groups, 8 private/ community vet pharmacies. Following the principle that imposed institutions will not last, the Project will identify existing groups engaged in respective activity to benefit from the project. The Groups' technical and managerial skills; lobbying/ advocacy skills, and their access to markets will be improved during the project period. Their financial capacity will also be improved to play active role in input/ output marketing and vet service provision & linked to suppliers.

8 County and a State level farmer association and union will be capacitated for lobbying, advocacy and policy influence on matters affecting smallholder farmers and other stakeholders; Farmer organizations will have a better capacity with improved bargaining power to negotiate with traders for fair prices for their produce. As the associations will be member based, their financial sustainability will be ensured through members contributions. By developing their lobbying and advocacy capacity, the associations/ union will be able to mobilize external resources for their activities after the end of the project.

Target groups in the project area:

The target groups are active participants of the project implementation. They are also the direct recipients of project inputs and resources (users of knowledge resources). They provide information and data which is used for planning, review monitoring and finally project evaluation. In as much as the project aims at improving their situation, they are also important contributors to ascertain the impact of the project on their situation. The project will maintain close contacts with all the target groups.

County Agriculture Departments (CADs):

The County Agriculture Departments are key partners in the implementation of the action. They will assist in identification and organization of various target groups. CADs will also assist in providing extension agents as counterparts on secondment basis to the project. They will play key role in the follow up and implementation of the exit strategy as the project gradually phases out. The counterparts' ministry staff will be based in the CAD offices and Payam agriculture offices in the Counties and Payams.

State Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Animal Resources and Fisheries:

The SMAF have key role in supporting the implementation of the project. It will provide office space for the project coordination in the State. The ministry will also play key role in the follow up of implementation of the project activities and ensures that exit strategy is followed as the project gradually phases out its activities in the State. State ministry will assign the most appropriate departments to closely coordinate implementation of activities with the NPA project staff. The Lakes State department of cooperatives and rural development is expected to assist in formalizing farmers' organizations, associations and cooperatives as they emerge.

The European Union Delegation to the Republic of South Sudan:

The EU is the main donor to this project. It will play a key role in providing the required funding and important guidelines for implementation, monitoring, evaluation, audit and other important issues. Key personnel will be invited in some of the most important occasions such as project launch, annual Stakeholders' Forum, and short visits to local institutions supported by the project as a sign of real partnership with target groups.

Norwegian People's Aid (NPA):

NPA has a special role as a responsible organization for implementation of the action and its provisions such as conducting baseline surveys, evaluation, financial management, promoting visibility actions and other tasks. NPA will play a leading role as the main implementer of this action in Lakes State including providing guidelines and updating extension packages in consultation with the State Ministry and other implementing partners.

It will facilitate important events such as project launch, annual stakeholders' forum and annual project review. NPA will coordinate with other implementation partners of SORUDEV in the neighbouring States to facilitate experience sharing & lesson learnt on important issues. NPA will participate actively in the quarterly coordination meetings on a rotational basis.

Coordination and Synergies with other projects

The action is part of the SORUDEV's smallholder component which is being implemented in the neighbouring States of Western Bahr el Ghazal, Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Warrap states. NPA recognizes the importance of coordinating with other partners implementing the smallholder component in the other three states of Bahr el Ghazal to ensure exchange of experience, share information & expertise to create synergy & achieve the project goals.

NPA will take an active role in organizing & hosting a meeting in October this year and subsequent years for partners to share experiences, challenges & lesson learned. NPA will also put an effort to build on the success of SPCRP to develop further capacities of State authorities to facilitate their role of monitoring & evaluation of the provision of agriculture extension services; NPA therefore will coordinate and involve the State Ministry right from the planning to the final stage of project completion. The SORUDEV small holder component project achievements will greatly complement and contribute to the larger objectives of the Lakes state.

Functional linkages will be established between the EU-funded Agriculture and Food Information Systems (AFIS) project and the various producer and value chain groups of this action. Synergies are expected between these groups: Producer and value chain groups will provide information and data to the AFIS while AFIS will share such production information to market actors on one side and share relevant market information and data to the groups to make informed and strategic market decisions, particularly on when and where to market their produce. NPA will coordinate with the Pastoral Field School Project of FAO in the State to create synergy. Coordination efforts will include exchange of skills & experience in regards to Field Schools. NPA will include successful PFSs in the revolving grant & agribusiness training.

NPA has excellent working relationship with FAO demonstrated in Technical Assistant provided to FAO's Upper Nile Small Grant management activities.

In the phase out plan, NPA will gradually handover the supervision of the following institutions and equipment to Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry:

Institutions

- i) Community based loan scheme institutions
- ii) Producer groups and cooperatives
- iii) Village saving loan associations
- iv) Agro-dealers and associations

Equipment

- i) Three hardtops land cruisers
- ii) Eight motor bikes
- iii) Ten computer desktops
- iv) Ten printers-cum-scanners and copiers

Annex 9 Logical Framework

Intervention logic		Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
Overall objectives	To contribute to increased food security, reduced vulnerability and enhanced livelihoods of rural households in South Sudan.	<i>20% increase in households rating of Food security situation in Lakes State. (Baseline 8%)</i>	State government annual reports, UN FAO/WFP/UNDP, CFSAM & Food Security assessment reports	<i>Other actors (government ministries & partners) will work towards attaining an increased food security, reduced vulnerability and enhanced livelihoods</i>
Specific objective	Increased agricultural production & income of smallholder farmers in Lakes State through strengthening extension services that effectively reaches smallholders.	<i>50% increase in Agricultural Crop production/ Yield of target groups in Lakes State. (Baseline 0.7ton/hh)</i> <i>50% increase in Average HH Incomes of target groups in Lakes state (Baseline: 876 SSP/Annum)</i>	External project evaluation reports Specific household surveys Review of reports	Security situation remains stable, Weather factors remain normal Preconditions: Availability of extension agents through CADs and State ministry Stable security situation allowing extension agents' and farmers' movements Risks to consider: Availability of COTs and Stable security situation allowing COTs' and farmers' movements
Expected results 1	Result 1: R1 – Increased adoption of good practices that increase production & reduce production losses through strengthened Extension services delivery system in the 8 Counties of Lakes State.	<i>75 % of targeted small holder farmers adopted improved agronomic practices from the defined extension packages (Baseline: 25%)</i> <i>85% reduction of post-harvest losses by targeted small holder groups (Baseline loss: 50%)</i> <i>50% increase of small holder farmers accessing extension services (Baseline: 12%)</i>	Project officers report, Extension follow up reports, site observations Payam Supervisors extension reports; Post harvest assessment reports State ministry and CAD annual reports; Independent Mid-term & end-of- project evaluation reports.	NPA Assessment & Monitoring reports, Project field level mid-year and annual reports Baseline report, inception report Training reports, quarterly reports Defined county specific extension packages; Extension officer& Payam Extension workers monthly, quarterly reports Project review document, Implementation planning report

Intervention logic		Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
Expected results 2	Result 2: R2 – Increased adoption of animal traction amongst smallholder farmers in 8 Counties of Lakes state to increase cultivation area and crop production	<p><i>20% increase of smallholders farmers using ox plough (Baseline 45%)</i></p> <p><i>75% increase in average area cultivated by targeted small holder farmers through use of ox-plough (Baseline 2 Feddan/hh)</i></p> <p><i>20% increase of small holders using animal traction for other farming activities in addition to cultivation. Eg ox-drawn cart, weeder, planters etc (Baseline: none)</i></p>	<p>Animal traction officer report, COT reports,</p> <p>Monitoring reports; Project reports,</p> <p>Field visits, Pre harvest assessment/Report,</p>	<p>Animal traction officer quarterly reports</p> <p>Extension workers monthly, quarterly reports</p> <p>Training reports, quarterly reports</p> <p>COT reports, Training reports, quarterly reports</p> <p>Delivery notes, B/smith workshop reports, quarterly reports</p> <p>Animal traction centre report, quarterly reports</p>
Expected results 3	Result 3: R3 - Improved market access & linkages among value chain actors & producer groups in 8 Counties of Lakes state.	<p><i>25 % increase in number of targeted smallholder farmers accessing inputs from local input suppliers (Baseline: 2%)</i></p> <p><i>25 % increase in marketing of produce through local marketers. (Baseline: 31%)</i></p> <p><i>50% increase of small holder farmers' participation in farmers institutions (Baseline: 7.5%)</i></p> <p><i>75% increase in VSLA use by producer groups (Baseline: none)</i></p>	<p>Pre harvest assessment/ report; Project terminal reports,</p> <p>Agribusiness officers quarterly reports; Market Assessment/Report; State ministry and CAD annual reports,</p> <p>Farmer organisations membership records,</p>	<p>Agribusiness officer quarterly reports, Quarterly Project reports</p>

Activities
<p>1.1 - Conduct baseline survey of small holders 1.2. - Identification, training and deployment of 32 extension workers 1.3. - Develop and adapt extension packages to 8 counties with location specific needs in consultation with State Ministry 1.4. - Identify & organize 3200 smallholder farmers into extension groups 1.5. - Provide extension services & training to 320 smallholder extension groups based on extension packages identified 1.6. - Conduct an annual State-level project review 2.1. Identification, training and deploying 2 Animal traction supervisors & 4 trainers 2.2. Identification, training, equipping and deploying 138 community ox plough trainers (COTs) 2.3. Identification, training, equipping 48 local blacksmith 2.4. Identification, mobilisation and training of 1200 smallholder farmers interested in animal traction; 2.5. Facilitate the supply of equipment & raw materials for the production of animal traction implements for two Blacksmith workshops 2.6. Establish 2 Animal Traction Centres to provide training and technical backstopping to COTs and small holder farmers 2.7. Promotion of nursery/tree planting in the animal traction centres 3.1. Identify, organize & provide technical & skills and organizational development skills to 24 producer groups, 12 agro-processing groups, 8 vet pharmacies and 12 input/output market actors 3.2. Formation of 8 county loan and technical committees to disburse loans to Producer groups, agro processing groups, vet pharmacies and input/output suppliers 3.3. Facilitate the formation & operationalization of 8 County level farmers' associations and 1 State level farmers' union 3.4. Facilitate the formation Community-based Loan Schemes in 8 Counties 3.5. Facilitate business plan development and provision of revolving grant to 48 Agri-business groups 3.6. Organize state-level annual stakeholder forum with a view to launch lobby and advocacy 3.7. Train producer groups on VSLA and setting up saving activities</p>

Costs (SEE BUDGET FOR DETAILS)		
Staff Training	Human Resources €775,407;	Human Resources: €775,407; Travel: €37,440; Equipment & Supplies: €143,360; Local Office: €202,500 Other costs & services: €59,000; Other: Extension delivery €214,696 , Animal traction promotion: €294,015 , Farmer organisation & Market actors: €239,888 ; SORUDEV Partner coordination W/shop: €11,940 Contingency: €98,897; Indirect cost: €145,379.1; Total: €2,222,22
Operational facilities	TRAVEL €37,440;	
Equipment	EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES 143,360	
	LOCAL OFFICE €202,500	
	OTHER COSTS, SERVICES €59,000;	
Training	OTHER (Activity Costs) Extension delivery €214,696 , Animal traction promotion: €294,015 , Farmer organisation & Market actors: €239,888 ; SORUDEV Partner coordination W/shop: €11,940	

Annex 10 Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

Who?		What information?		How?			
Users	Area of monitoring	Indicator	Data collection tool/method	Frequency of data collection	Persons responsible for data collection	Format and frequency of reporting	Responsible person for reporting
Donor/ Government and other interested stakeholders	Overall Objectives (Impact)	20% increase in house rating of food security situation in Lakes State (baseline 8%)	State government annual reports, UN, CFSAM & Food Security Assessment Reports	End of project	Evaluators	EU format Annually	Management Juba
Management (Juba/Oslo) Coordination	Specific Objective (Outcome)	50% increase in agricultural crop production/yield of target groups in Lakes State (baseline 0.7ton/hh) 50% increase in average hh incomes of target groups in Lakes State (baseline 678 SSP/Annum)	External project evaluation report Specific household survey Review reports	Annually Quarterly	Supervisor Extension workers	EU format Quarterly	Project officer / coordinator
Coordination/ Management Project officers	Results (Outputs)	1.1 75% of targeted smallholder farmers adopted improved agronomic practices from the developed extension packages (baseline 25%) 1.2 85% reduction of post-harvest losses by targeted smallholder groups (baseline 12%) 1.3 50% increase of smallholder farmers accessing extension services (baseline 12%)	Reports (including monitoring, progress, quarterly)	Monthly quarterly	Extension workers Supervisors	Internal format Quarterly Internal template	Project officers
		2.1 20% increase of smallholder farmers using ox plough (baseline 45%) 2.2 4 Fedd/hh increase in average area cultivated by targeted smallholder farmers through use of ox plough (baseline 2 Fedd/hh) 2.3 20% increase of smallholders using animal traction for other farming activities in addition to cultivation. E.g. ox drawn cart, weeder, planters (baseline none)					

Who?		What information?	How?				
Users	Area of monitoring	Indicator	Data collection tool/method	Frequency of data collection	Persons responsible for data collection	Format and frequency of reporting	Responsible person for reporting
		3.1 25% increase in number of targeted smallholder farmers accessing inputs from local input suppliers (baseline 2%) 3.2 25% increase in marketing of produce through local marketers (baseline 31%) 3.3 50% increase of smallholder farmers' participation in farmers institutions (baseline 7.5%) 3.4 75% increase in VSLA use by producer groups (baseline none)					
	4.1	<p>Result statement: Increased adoption of good practices that increase production & reduce production losses through strengthened Extension services delivery system in the 8 Counties of Lakes State</p> <p>4.1.1 conduct baseline survey of smallholders 4.1.2 identification, training and development of 24 extension workers 4.1.3 develop and adopt extension package to 8 Counties with location specific needs in collaboration with State Ministry 4.1.4 identification & organization of 320 farmer groups 4.1.5 provide extension service and training of 320 farmer groups based on developed extension package 4.1.6 conduct an annual state level review</p> <p>Result statement: Increased adoption of animal traction amongst smallholder farmers in 8 Counties of Lakes state to increase cultivation area and crop production:</p> <p>4.2.1 identification, training and deploying 2 animal traction supervisors & 4 trainers 4.2.2 identification, training and equipping of 138 community oxen trainers (COTs) 4.2.3 identification, training and equipping of 48 local blacksmith 4.2.4 identification, mobilization and training of 1200</p>	Consultants, operational facilities Staff training, supplies	NPA Assessment & monitoring report, project field level mid-year and annual reports Baseline report, inception report Training reports, quarterly reports	Consultant Enumerators Extension workers Supervisors ATC staff COTs Project officers ATC staff Agri-business staff	Quarterly report format Survey tool (external) Developed template for reporting	Project staff Consultant Extension workers / Supervisors Supervisors / project officer

Who?		What information?	How?				
Users	Area of monitoring	Indicator	Data collection tool/method	Frequency of data collection	Persons responsible for data collection	Format and frequency of reporting	Responsible person for reporting
		<p>smallholder farmers increased in animal traction</p> <p>4.2.5 facilitate supply of equipment and raw material for the production of animal traction implements for two blacksmith workshop</p> <p>4.2.6 establishment of 2 animal traction centres to provide training and technical backstopping to COTs and smallholder farmers</p> <p>4.2.7 identification, training of 80 community animal health workers (CAHWs)</p> <p>4.2.8 promotion of nursery tree planting in the animal traction centres</p> <p>Result Statement: Improved market access & linkages among value chain actors & producer groups in 8 Counties of Lakes state.</p> <p>4.3.1 identify, organize and provide technical skills and organizational development skills to 24 producer groups, 12 agro-processing groups, 8 vet pharmacies and 12 input/output market actors</p> <p>4.3.2 formation of 8 County based loan and technical committees to disburse loans to producer groups, agro-processing groups, vet pharmacies, and input/output suppliers</p> <p>4.3.3 facilitate formation & operationalization of 8 County level farmer associations and 1 State level farmer union</p> <p>4.3.5 facilitate business plan development and provision of revolving grant to 48 agri-business groups</p> <p>4.3.6 organize State level annual stakeholder forum with a view to launch lobby and advocacy</p> <p>4.3.7 train producer groups on VSLA and setting up saving activities</p>					