

Project N° 2015/362-919

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

**Draft Monitoring Report: Concern
Worldwide (SORUDEV)**

**Period covered:
2 to 9 November 2015**

Prepared by 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

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

Monitoring Report: Concern Worldwide (SORUDEV)

Period covered: 02 to 09 November 2015

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Abbreviations and acronyms

ADLC	Agriculture Demonstration and Learning Centre
AFIS	Agriculture and Food Information System
APAD	Aweil Project for Agriculture and Development
BRACED	Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters
CAD	County Agricultural Department
CAEW	Community Agricultural Extension Worker
CAHW	Community Animal Health Worker
CBO	Community Based Organisation
CFW	Cash for Work
CORP	Community-Owned Resource Person
CWW	Concern World Wide
DDG	Digital Data Gathering
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EU	European Union
EUR	Euro
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FFS	Farmer Field School
LD	Lead Farmers
LUYDA	Langich United Youth Development Association
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MLFI	Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Industries
MTE	Mid-Term Evaluation
PIN	People In Need
RAIN	Resilient Agriculture In Nutrition
SMAFCRD	State Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Cooperatives and Rural Development
SORUDEV	South Sudan Rural Development Programme
SSP	South Sudanese pound
ToT	Training of Trainers
VSLA	Village Savings and Loan Association
WBG	Western Bahr-el-Ghazal
ZEAT-BEAD	Zonal Effort for Agricultural Transformation – Bahr-el-Ghazal Agricultural Development

Project data

General Data

Contract beneficiary	Concern Worldwide
Project title	“Implementation of SORUDEV Smallholders’ Component in Aweil West, Aweil North and Aweil Centre, Northern Bahr-el-Ghazal State”
Project ref. CRIS	FED/2013/333-510
Date of visit	2 to 9 June 2015
Location	Selected Payams (14) in Aweil Centre, Aweil North and Aweil West Counties, Northern Bahr-el-Ghazal State
Monitoring Officer	Tayo Alabi
Start date	1 June 2014
End date	31 May 2017

Financial Data

Total EC contribution	€ 2,000,000 (equivalent to 90% of € 2,222,222)
Total spent by project to date (EUR)	€ 756,375 (Approx. Up to September)
Balance of funds released to date	€ 1,117,900
Anticipated date of next request/release of funds	February 2016
Anticipated amount of next request/release of funds	€ 882,100

1 Summary of Field Visits

Farmers' Group

Six farmer groups (Bothwan, Luktin, Copcok, Pau Matong, Rol Chol and Kogdai) were visited with membership ranging from 25 to 30 with significant female representation of over 70%. All the groups were formed in 2014 through a process led by the Payam Management Committees (PMC) and the joint staff of CWW, WHH and PIN. This common approach ensured that there is no duplication of activities and that the groups supported are not double funded. The approach of targeting is very popular and this seems to satisfy the community elders, government and the implementing partners. The partners' role of verifying the names suggested against the selection criteria of SORUDEV and indeed FSTP was carried out, again to the satisfaction of all the critical stakeholders. It was evident that the groups enjoyed the support and goodwill of the communities in their various Bomas. Despite this effort it was still a very arduous process requiring repeated visits and contacts to separate the vulnerable from the less vulnerable households. The perception and general acceptability of the groups is viewed locally in a very positive manner.

Concern's main extension approach is the use of Lead Farmers (LD). In total, 81 lead farmers were trained over a 12 day period. The training was done within the facility of the Agriculture Demonstration and Learning Centre (ADLC) in Nyamlel managed jointly by the State Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry (SMoAF) and Concern with facilitators from CWW and SMoAF. This facility was constructed in 2012 by CWW with funding from the EU FSTP programme. The training scope for the LDs includes improved agronomic practices for selected crops such as sorghum, groundnut, cowpeas and some vegetables. The extension guide produced by SORUDEV was used as a guide. The training also includes communication and facilitation skills along with basic understanding of organizational development. Each Lead Farmer is then attached to a group of farmers and, with the exception of one group that over 50 farmers attached to a Lead Farmer, the farming groups are mostly 25 in number. Each LD was supported with a kit consisting of mainly Sorghum and Groundnut seeds (Sorghum Gadadam variety): - 76.5kgs in total; Groundnuts (local variety) - 225 kg). They are also provided a bicycle each to facilitate their movement. They are expected to set aside 0.5-1 Feddan (70x60cm) of their farm to demonstrate improved farming methods, multiply the seeds and also to encourage farmers in the group to visit and through peer interaction to learn from each other.

The major activities of all the farming groups visited are the cultivation of Sorghum, Groundnut, Sesame and Okra; except for Groundnuts all are intercropped. The timing of this mission happened mostly after harvest of all the major crops from the field except in Awada area where long duration Sorghum varieties are still in the field, the mission could not observe the field performance in situ. As a result, the mission used a combination of focus group discussion with physical examination (spot check) of farm produce from the farms to verify (at least obtain an idea of) the status of harvest and the post-harvest among all the farmers visited.

In so far as the establishment the groups are concern, as noted above, it is a success. However, the use of Lead Farmers also poses another set of challenges to the CWW field staff. There is no hard evidence that the Lead Farmers are effective because they themselves need to be monitored on the plot they set aside and then there was (and will be) the need to follow up how other farmers learnt from the approach. In Bothwan farming group for instance, only 11 members are reported active by Kuki Fama (the Lead Farmer) in participating in the farm activities yet all 25 of them are very active in the integrated Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) activities. This percentage of active participation is similar across the groups. Late supply of seed is an issue among the lead farmers and so also is the fact that not the LFs who set aside demonstration plots also

utilised the improved methods. Though this is not the case in Awada where we met a lead farmer with 6 Feddans of Sorghum using hand labour and very well managed. The critical area for CWW to follow up on (in the next farming season) is the transfer of knowledge on improved practices directly to the farmers of the beneficiaries. Naturally, adoption process can take a very long time but could even be longer if there is no proper follow up.

Across the groups and in all the storage facility visited, there is generally a very poor harvest of Groundnut and Sorghum. This is not particular to CWW operational areas only; it is the general situation in the Greater Bahr el Ghazal. The lack of rainfall for three weeks after germination of seedlings was a disaster. This period is among the most critical period of establishment of crops and led to very poor growth evident by high die back immediately after sprouting, stunted growth and consequently led to formation of small head, bunch of Sorghum panicles and fewer nuts in the case of Groundnuts. The farmers report a loss of between 60-70% of their anticipated harvest. For many of the farmers their harvest will only take their households for no more than 3 months. Hunger is expected to set in from January 2016. There will be no surplus for possible sales to the World Food Programme (WFP) Purchase for Progress (P4P) as envisaged.

Concern is encouraged to consider adaptation methods which include obtaining long time reliable meteorological data for an entire season (monthly if not weekly rainfall forecasts) in their operational areas.

There are attempts by institutions, universities and research centres to encourage the cultivation of Sorghum and Pearl Millet through transplanting. While this is not yet popular it is gaining acceptability in many Sorghum growing regions around the world especially with the need to adapt to climatic vagaries. See this links:

<http://www.fao.org/docs/eims/upload/agrotech/1901/r7341Pt1.pdf>; and

<http://transplanting.bangor.ac.uk/ghanafinalupdate.PDF>; and

http://www.icrisat.org/vasat/learning_resources/crops/sorghum/sorghum_prodpractices/html/m714/resources/1884.html from FAO, Bangor University UK and ICRISAT respectively. Given that it is new way of cultivating Sorghum, it might be useful to try it on a few plots at the Agriculture Demonstration and Learning Centre and on some lead farmers plots early next season to observe the performance. Following the expected success, this technology can be promoted and subsequently adopted not only to reduce the length of growth but to also ensure that the critical period of early Sorghum growth is taken care of.

Another very widely practiced adaptation technique by farmers is Ratooning. The aim is to encourage the ratooning of sorghum in very well fenced areas to avoid cattle trampling on them or eating them up. This is already popular in South Sudan, it needs to be encouraged and promoted. Another improved and adapted practice is to plant in basins especially in a well-structured intra and inter-rows. The basin holds water and has been proven to hold moisture longer supporting better plant growth.

It is important for Concern to encourage further diversification of crops grown by farmers. For example, this includes promoting Cassava cultivars. They are more resistant to drought. The Cassava varieties seen on some farms in Awada have grown very well but are infested by Mosaic diseases. Evidently, there are no mosaic resistant varieties in the area yet - hence attempts should be made to obtain improved varieties with mosaic resistance characteristics from Yei, Uganda or Nairobi based institutions and research houses.

APAD a partner to Concern reported that farms in which oxen or donkey ploughs were used performed better retained more moisture and the Sorghum did better. This report needs further verification and if so, provides additional reason to promote ploughs more extensively.

VSLA Groups

As mentioned above, all the Farmer groups visited have already integrated with VSLA activities. Their understanding of VSLA methodology and the way they have mobilised savings is very impressive. Among the four SORUDEV partners Concern struggled to kick off and was rated as very slow during the inception period but all the VSLA visited during this mission showed a very good understanding of the methodology and have mobilised funds through member savings. Of the six groups, Kongdai in Marialbai and Matanyaer in Manyiel established in January and July 2015 respectively saving weekly shows tremendous potential while Maduany and Maloudit groups in Mariam East payam are still struggling to mobilise savings. It appears close and regular follow up contributed mostly to the successes witnessed. Concern and partners should ensure closer and more regular support to the group.

Record keeping by the appointed record keeper is observed to be in place in all the groups albeit at different levels of clarity. Quality of record keeping is very crucial to the effective monitoring and reporting of VSLA activities. As one of the tools of micro finance, there is a need to ensure that records are properly and well-kept by the groups. No one was left in doubt that members are aware of how much they have contributed, they keep mental note of the sum and this tallied with the written records. Notwithstanding, the core successes of VSLA is built on trust, this must not be allowed to be in doubt hence poor record keeping risks brewing conflict and distrust and collapse of the groups.

Concern should ensure there is a uniform recording format with all the groups. The Luktin group kept a better record. This should be adopted as the standard and be rolled out to other groups. It is suggested that Concern organises a training session for record keepers per County to improve their very important role as group members. As an action point, the VSLAs should begin with this by January 2016. It should be noted that they do not have to erase or cancel their previous records. Those should be kept as they are, and from January 2016 onwards the new records should be put in place.

It was observed that VSLA members place very little importance on signature and thumb printing. They are comfortable with other people signing or thumb printing for them even when they are present in the meetings. In the monitors' presence at the meeting of the Matanyer group this issue was observed at first hand. This explains why most of the thumb prints seen in the group and other groups are similar. The importance of signatures and thumb printing does seem to be understood by group members. In the modern day where technology is growing rapidly, it is essential that this opportunity is used to encourage rural dwellers to protect their personal identification numbers (PIN). This is obviously not an issue at the moment but could be in future.

The groups' individual contribution is observed to be very low in some groups; in fact as low as SSP. 10 per month translating to SSP. 2.50 per week. Concern and partners field officers should encourage increased savings and contribution on weekly basis. It is observed that a few groups meet once a month, this is not in line with the methodology which encourages integration of farmer field schools and business enterprise training with VSLA. All of these have modules that need to be taught to the member to improve their livelihood activities. They often require minimum of 30 weeks to complete so meeting once a month is inadequate.

Agro dealers

Concern's effort to engage Agro dealers in the period under review was limited to identification of existing agro dealers and information on their location. Due to the issue of

inflating the prices of ox ploughs, thinking that Concern would pay for them, the agro dealers did not succeed in selling any ploughs. There was also an earlier report that farmers resorted to buying donkey ploughs from the traders from Khartoum; this doesn't seem to hold true as no substantial use of ox plough was seen in the field or recorded from any of the meetings held with farmers. The monitoring mission was reliably informed that the PMC has been tasked with the responsibility of identifying and negotiating prices for the ploughs and ensuring that agro dealers offer reasonable prices for their stock and that farmers are not exploited. However, Concern needs to find other complementary options to improve the uptake of ox plough use. This is major result area of SORUDEV Programme and should be stepped up in the coming season. As mentioned in the section on farmers groups, the option of providing loans to major lead farmers should be explored as well as the part funding of the cost for active VSLA who demonstrate the willingness and ability to repay the cost loaned through their savings.

Vegetable Group (Dry Season Operation)

Dry season farming operation is essential and it should be a major activity of Concern's FIM SORUDEV, FSTP and BRACED Project activities. Growing vegetables in the dry season will reduce the vulnerability of farmers to the kind of dry spell experienced earlier in the year. Growing vegetables for consumption and sale is very important. It was ascertained during the monitoring mission that DG cautioned on promoting vegetable growing in the dry season because of the fear of water shortage in later months. He cautioned that any agency interested in supporting these activities should find out if the water point being relied upon will have enough water to last through the cropping season to avoid a situation where the vegetables dry before the farmers have benefitted from the crop. This was based on the fact that the area did not have enough rains during the last season and the annual flooding did not get to the levels that were witnessed in a normal year. The monitoring mission feels (fortunately) that this is partly incorrect and that vegetable production will thrive and provide alternative income to the vulnerable farmers especially if they make use of the long stretch of river in the counties. The monitors recommend that even though vegetable farming is not seen as a SORUDEV and FSTP core activity beyond the Demonstration and Learning Centre, all the VSLA groups visited expressed interest in vegetable growing and are willing to purchase their own seeds if the agro dealers are able to stock them. Concern should visit and understudy PIN's activities in this area. The two PIN activities that are useful to this endeavour are the Agro Dealer stores and the Farmer Field Schools. Preparation for the dry season is almost becoming late now so it should start and be prioritised immediately.

Ox Plough

The adoption of ox ploughing in the past main season was very low. It is reported that only 5 ox ploughs were in use and these are from communities where old ox ploughs already existed. Concern explained to the monitoring mission the difficulty they face encouraging the farming groups to purchase ox ploughs from the identified agro dealers. The farmers complained that the prices the agro dealers are quoting are too high compare to the real cost in the neighbouring markets.

The season was used to promote the technology and to do training.

2 Key findings/Notes on project development

This mission is the 3rd routine visit to observe the implementation of the South Sudan Rural Development (SORUDEV) Programme being implemented by Concern Worldwide (CWW) in Northern Bahr-el-Ghazal. The first visit took place in November 2014 followed by another in June 2015. As with the two previous missions, the TA team met with key stakeholders at

State, County and community levels including Government officials, agro-dealers, representatives of the implementing partners (CWW, Aweil Project for Agricultural Development (APAD) and Langich United Youth Development Association (LUYDA)) and target beneficiaries. The main objectives of the TA monitoring mission, which were communicated a month before the trip, are:

- To follow up on action taken following the recommendations of the previous monitoring visit in June and to establish whether the key recommendations and suggestions made by the previous monitors were followed;
- To provide extension and hands-on support to staff for the implementation of integrated programme activities;
- To assess progress made with Project implementation over the past 6 months;
- To assess the level of collaboration and coordination with key stakeholders;
- To provide relevant technical and advisory support to the Project based on findings during the mission and on requests deemed appropriate by the Project team (time permitting);
- To prepare the ground for and support the Results-Orientated Monitoring (ROM) visit; and
- To investigate any challenges facing the operational environment and overall project management.

The mission established that:

SORUDEV programme activities are being implemented in accordance with the timeline agreed with the Delegation of the European Union (EUD). All staff are on board and there is a very close relationship with the State Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (SMAF). There have been a few misunderstandings owing to minimal understanding by the new Director of Extension of the SMAFCRD of the programme implementation approach adopted for SORUDEV, but none of these were serious enough to affect the programme's objective or direction and the issue was resolved with the new Minister of Agriculture during a visit by the TA monitor to his office.

The two national implementing partners (IPs) (LUYDA and APAD) were seen to be active in the field and collaboration between CWW and the IPs is good. With the exception of the slightly delayed transfer of money to one of the IPs, the relationship has been mutually beneficial. In the first visit of November 2014 and to a lesser extent in June 2015, there were concerns as to the ability of CWW to properly deliver on the programme's main activities without embarking on free distribution of inputs; this is no longer a worry as the TA team identified some operational Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) and farming groups which showed extensive in-depth understanding of the methodology. The SORUDEV team will have to build on this strength and improve linkages between farmers and reputable agro-dealers. The harvest in the 2015 season has been poor due to the occurrence of a dry spell during the critical stages of growth of both Sorghum and Groundnut (the two staple foods of the beneficiaries). As a result the surplus forecast did not emerge and the farmers, who hoped for surplus this season, are now facing a major food deficit that will test their resilience in the coming year.

Post-Year One Activity:

As mentioned above all planned programme activities are on course except for the procurement of kits for Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs), which cannot currently be transported to Juba (from Nairobi) due to the refusal of the Ministry of Finance

to grant the necessary waiver. CWW demonstrated the effort it has made to ensure that the importation is smooth but as long as the CAHWs do not have their kits, more work will need to be done to ensure animals are treated using appropriate equipment.

Both the Inception report and the first Interim report have been submitted to and approved by the EUD. The next important monitoring and evaluation (M&E)-related activity to be undertaken by the programme is the independent mid-term evaluation (MTE), which urgently needs to be commissioned in line with procurement procedures by the end of 2015 to allow field work to start as planned in mid- to late January 2016. Concern Worldwide is committed to the production of the joint extension materials developed for the SORUDEV programme and has expressed desire to take the lead in coordinating the printing of the document.

Overall level of progress on implementation

The programme specific objectives, *R1 – Improved provision of and access to sustainable extension services for poor, young and/or female farmers so as to improve their knowledge and capacity to enhance food production and productivity and R2 – Improved market access, access to inputs and agricultural incomes for rural poor active smallholder farmers in Aweil Centre, Aweil North and Aweil West Counties of Northern Bahr-el-Ghazal State* are relevant to address the problems of food insecurity in the area of operation. The activities implemented are progressing well but need to be strengthened at all levels.

The SORUDEV programme implementation is on course. The programme has successfully passed through the inception period and has responded very well to the adaptation from emergency to development implementation approach. The interim report was submitted and approved by EUD.

Staffing level is adequate and the understanding of the programmes activities by the technical staff has improved tremendously compared to the levels observed in the previous meeting. The Manager of SORUDEV is in place and has stayed with the project from the outset with advantage of knowing the transition of the project.

Lead farmer approach to extension has commenced well with the training and the establishment of the demonstration plots. For the lead farmer approach to be effective, there need to be proper monitoring and follow up of the lead farmers dissemination activities. The incorporation of the lead farmer in all the VSLA groups is creative and further helps to integrate agriculture extension into VSLAs as envisaged in the SORUDEV implementation approach.

The agro dealership component of the project needs to be developed properly. There is an opportunity to coordinate with other FSTP partners in the same location on strategy of support. The uptake of Ox ploughing in the last main season is very low for the reason that the VSLAs were not strong enough at the time. CWW must make conscious effort to reach the farmers well ahead during the preparation period. It is not enough to say "are we linking the farmers with agro dealers or that the ox ploughs are pricey". CWW project staff should coach and proactively move the ox plough traders to meet the farmers in their respective VSLA groups. CWW has since then had discussions were held with the agro-dealers and the farmers as well. When the farmers were told of the prices the agro-dealers were offering for ploughs, the farmers were reluctant to pay those prices. This forced CWW and partners to go back to the drawing board so as to see how best to address this issue. That is how the issue of having the payam management committee (PMCs) to take lead came about. This has led to more realistic prices being offered to the farmers by the agro-dealers. CWW, in this case, comes as a facilitator.

Production levels for the two staple crops Sorghum and Groundnuts in the season is low in all the areas affected by erratic rainfall. However the farmers in Aroyo and Awada appear to be doing well with the long duration sorghum varieties due for harvest in January.

On the recommendations of the previous TA Monitoring Report

The programme responded to all the recommendations made by the previous monitoring mission. Specifically: Most of the project items have been procured but it has been hard to get some of the project items into the country due to a delay in securing duty exemption from the National Ministry of Finance (e.g. for the CAHW kits at the CWW Kenya office that are awaiting delivery to Juba)

Quarterly Project Steering Committee (PSC) meetings have been held with State Ministries (the SMAF and SMARF) to discuss the Project. CWW is also an active member of the State food security and livelihoods (FSL) cluster. A major issue has been the delay in creating the linkages between farmers and agro-dealers that are necessary to the provision of ox- and donkey-drawn ploughs to the beneficiaries. The model being used under SORUDEV has since been explained in detail to the Ministries.

CWW shared all Project (proposal) documents with all relevant stakeholders at State and County level at the start of the Project and has also updated stakeholders on progress through PSC meetings and County and Payam coordination meetings. Monthly progress reports have also been submitted to County authorities to update them on Project implementation and challenges so that they may advise accordingly.

Quarterly PSC meetings have been held with the SMAF and SMARF to discuss the Project. CWW is also an active member of the State FSL) cluster, for which meetings are held at both State and County level.

Staff were retrained in VSLA methodology to ensure that they understood the concept and applied it correctly. Since most of the beneficiaries live in communities supported by Lead Farmers, the latter were also trained in VSLA so that they could support the savings groups more closely (including at weekends) when the project staff are not working.

47 Lead Farmers have been trained as Village Facilitators or Agents for VSLAs to provide first-hand mentoring support and supervision to the existing VSLAs. During this time, CWW field staff have also provided training on the ground in VSLA methodology, including record keeping, constitution development and group dynamics. Generally, the work of the VSLAs has improved although their savings have remained very low due to the current financial and food crisis. CWW will incorporate literacy lessons into the VSLA curriculum to strengthen their skills. Refresher training in this area has been given to the Project team.

CWW has contributed to the cost of sending 2 staff from the SMAF to undertake a 9-month training course at the Kagelu Agricultural Training Centre. 14 Government Extensionists at Payam level were trained by CWW on extension packages earlier in 2015 and further refresher trainings are now being planned. The Project has supported the short-term training of Government staff, including new staff at County level. The Project includes the extension staff of the County Agricultural Department (CAD) within its Project area in any planned training as part of capacity building and also involves them in the monitoring of Project activities.

Crop assessment tools were used to determine the amount of land being cultivated by the farmers and will also now be used (at the end of the season) to determine how much was actually harvested. CWW and its partners continue to support AFIS by collecting market information and sharing it with the Cluster. The Project M&E Officer has developed a

number of data collection tools that are being used by the Project (which has also trained its staff in their use). In addition CWW submits a monthly Food Security Cluster Report to the FSC based on which an Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) report is produced. CWW also collects and shares regular market information with AFIS.

Following the failure to link farmers with agro-dealers due to high prices in the season that has just ended, the Project team went back to the drawing board to determine the way forward. The Project team is working with the Project Management Committees (PMCs) to identify agro-dealers in their locations and negotiate prices for the inputs. A number of PMCs have met with the Project team and agreed on how to move forward. By the end of 2015, the Project team will have linked a number of groups and should be in the process of acquiring the inputs.

Much information is shared with IPs at FSL cluster meetings and State-level PSC meetings. Formal meetings are held with different partners depending on circumstances. CWW is a member of the FSL cluster and regularly attends FSL cluster coordination meetings (and as such has been able to share information with other members of the FSL cluster, including FAO on VSLA, the WFP on Cash for Assets (CFA), PIN on agro-dealership and Welthungerhilfe (WHH) on FSTP implementation approaches and strategies).

The exit and sustainability strategy is under development. However, the SMAF has appointed some Extension Focal Points (staff) to work directly with the Project team in order to acquaint themselves with the Project approaches and provide technical and monitoring support. These arrangements are consistent with CWW's exit and sustainability strategy.

Main strengths

- The long-time presence of CWW in Northern Bahr el Ghazal with very well established premises is an advantage.
- The mission established that: CWW has a wealth of experience in the field of food security and livelihoods have a well-established team thus able to implement the project without any staffing challenges. Further they are able to support the partners where they can to ensure there is similarities in project approach.
- Coordination of activities: CWW has managed to hold regular meetings with the partner so as to harmonize the project approach and to plan.

Main weaknesses

- Procurement process is slow and needs to be effective.

Challenges identified during the TA mission in November 2015

- Erratic rainfall was a major issue with farmers as they sowed seeds and three weeks rainfall seizure immediately followed
- Insecurity in some part Aweil Centre and Aweil North in the cropping season.
- Fluctuations in prices of general food and household items reduce beneficiaries' ability to save during hunger months.
- Farmers resilience are tested on two fronts: Accessing inputs by themselves; erratic rainfall and level of savings in the VSLA

3.3 Challenges likely to adversely impact implementation and action to be taken to address problems

Challenges	Update as of the monitoring visit of June 2015	Update as of the monitoring visit of November 2015
Continued absence of Government-approved extension materials, including training modules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Over the years CWW has developed a number of training manuals for Food, Income and Market (FIM) activities into which it has continued to tap. - The EU, in collaboration with implementing partners, has held a rotating technical workshop in the different States in which SORUDEV IPs are based. Each workshop is organised by the implementing agency operating in that State and their main purpose is to develop and blend the training manuals of the different agencies into a common document that can be used across South Sudan. So far, CWW has been represented at two of the workshops. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CWW, along with representatives of IPs and the SMAF, participated in the 4th Quarterly SORUDEV Review Meeting, held in Wau and organised by the EU in collaboration with FAO. - CWW participated in the development of extension packages to be adopted by all SORUDEV IPs across all four States of the Greater Bahr-el-Ghazal region. The manuals were validated at a workshop (organised by FAO in Yei and attended by IPs and Government representatives) and are now waiting to be printed. This is in addition to a number of FIM training manuals developed by CWW over the years. - Mechanisms for collaboration and coordination with relevant authorities at State, County and Payam level have been put in place; for example, regular State-level Steering Committee and County/Payam coordination meetings are being held to update stakeholders on progress with Project implementation.
Danger of diverting EU/ SORUDEV funds into short-term support to the still-unsustainable Nyamlell Agricultural Demonstration and Learning Centre (ADLC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some funding has been set aside in the revised budget (inception rider) to support the running costs of the ADLC. - The Centre's hall is rented out at a small fee for training or meetings, which generates a little income for the Centre. - A business plan was developed for the ADLC to guide it toward self-sustainability. However, much remains to be done to ensure that the business plan is rolled out and can generate sufficient income to make the Centre sustainable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The SMAF will need to incorporate the Nyamlell ADLC into its annual budget and provide practical support to the development of the Centre. The Ministry has already agreed to put this idea into practice and to incorporate it into its annual plan and budget for 2016. - Integral to the business plan is the need to publicise the Centre in order to attract investment from relevant institutions with shared interest in the ADLC. This will likely reduce the financial resources committed by CWW to the Centre as the cost will be shared.
Additional challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Once the Project team received the prices of the ploughs from the agro-dealers, this information was shared with the farmers who saw instantly that the prices were very high compared to those in their respective locations. Farmers affirmed that the average price of a donkey plough across different locations was about SSP. 200 and that they would buy only from dealers selling at that price. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CWW is fast-tracking the issue of agro-dealership and is using the already established PMCs at Payam level to oversee the development of agro-dealership between farmers and agro-dealers. The PMCs will manage the community development funds resulting from the repayments that will be collected later from the farmers. Discussions are already underway with potential dealers and

Challenges	Update as of the monitoring visit of June 2015	Update as of the monitoring visit of November 2015
	<p>Faced with this roadblock, the Project team agreed to use Lead Farmers as a source of information on how many farmers in their groups owned ploughs. One interesting case involved a group of 50 people that had 37 ploughs (and should thus be urgently encouraged to increase the amount of land under cultivation).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Project team has trained 47 Lead Farmers as Village Facilitators or Agents for VSLAs to provide first-hand mentoring, support and supervision to the existing VSLAs. During this time, CWW field staff have also provided training on the ground in VSLA methodology, including record keeping, constitution development and group dynamics. Generally, the work of the VSLAs has improved although their savings have remained very low due to the current financial and food crisis. CWW will incorporate literacy lessons into the VSLA curriculum to strengthen their skills. 	<p>upon completion, Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) will be established between the PMCs and agro-dealers to govern the issue of agro-dealership. To avoid raising dealer expectations, the PMCs are already approaching and interacting with dealers in an effort to bridge the existing gap between dealers and farmers.</p>

Further actions required

3.4 Further actions required

Recommendation made in June	Actions taken to address the suggestions made in June
Prioritise support to the Project team in Nyamlell through the timely procurement of Project items. Senior management in Juba should ensure that this support is sustained throughout Project implementation.	Most of the project items have been procured but it has been hard to get some of the project items into the country due to a delay in securing duty exemption from the National Ministry of Finance (e.g. the CAHW kits at the CWW Kenya office that are awaiting delivery to Juba)
Prioritise the mending of a fractured relationship with the State Authorities. This is crucial as both the Minister and the Director General of Agriculture expressed their dissatisfaction and unhappiness with the performance of the two EU-funded projects (SORUDEV and the Food Security Thematic Programme - FSTP) at the meeting with the EU monitoring mission which was also attended by the Programme Manager and his team.	Quarterly PSC meetings have been held with State Ministries (SMAF and SMARF) to discuss the Project. CWW is also an active member of the State FSL cluster. A major issue has been the delay in creating the linkages between farmers and agro-dealers that are necessary to the provision of ox- and donkey-drawn ploughs to the beneficiaries. The model being used under SORUDEV has since been explained in detail to the Ministries.
Prioritise the sharing of Project documents with the State Authorities and the holding of regular meetings at the State Offices (by the Programme Manager and his team) in order to update the authorities of the plans, progress and challenges affecting Project implementation.	CWW shared all Project (proposal) documents with all relevant stakeholders at State and County level at the start of the Project and has also updated stakeholders on progress through PSC meetings and County and Payam coordination meetings as well as during the monthly FSL meetings. Monthly progress reports have also been submitted to County

Recommendation made in June	Actions taken to address the suggestions made in June
	authorities to update them on Project implementation and challenges so that they may advise accordingly.
Prioritise the establishment and operationalization of a State-Level Steering Committee. The committee should meet regularly to discuss overall Project performance, progress and challenges. County-level meetings involving all key stakeholders (including implementing agencies and beneficiary representatives) should also be held on a monthly basis.	Quarterly PSC meetings have been held with the SMAF and SMARF to discuss the Project. CWW is also an active member of the State FSL cluster, for which meetings are held at both State and County level where it shares successes as well as challenges it is facing in project implementation
Prioritise the provision of refresher training to all key staff in VSLA methodology and ensure they train all VSLA groups.	Staff were retrained in VSLA methodology to ensure that they understood the concept and applied it correctly. Since most of the beneficiaries live in communities supported by Lead Farmers, the latter were also trained in VSLA so that they could support the savings groups more closely (including at weekends).
Prioritise the provision of refresher training in i) VSLA concepts and methodologies; ii) business skills; and iii) financial literacy to all target groups.	47 Lead Farmers have been trained as Village Facilitators or Agents for VSLAs to provide first-hand mentoring support and supervision to the existing VSLAs. During this time, CWW field staff have also provided training on the ground in VSLA methodology, including record keeping, constitution development and group dynamics. Generally, the work of the VSLAs has improved although their savings have remained very low due to the current financial and food crisis. CWW will incorporate literacy lessons into the VSLA curriculum to strengthen their skills. Refresher training in this area has been given to the Project team.
Prioritise the refresher training of County-level staff in agronomic practices in order to increase their chances of implementing the Project efficiently and professionally. Such training could be planned on the job but also through short training courses carried out within the country (although not all staff should be sent for training at the same time).	CWW has contributed to the cost of sending 2 staff from the SMAF to undertake a 9-month training course at the Kagelu Agricultural Training Centre. 14 Government Extensionists at Payam level were trained by CWW on extension packages earlier in 2015 and further refresher trainings are now being planned. The Project has supported the short-term training of Government staff, including new staff at County level. The Project includes the extension staff of the County Agricultural Department (CAD) within its Project area in any planned training as part of capacity building and also involves them in the monitoring of Project activities.
Strengthen the M&E function of the Project by ensuring that data is collected and analysed regularly. The crop assessment tools developed and circulated by the EU to all SORUDEV programmes should be a starting point. All data collected and analysed should be shared with the Agricultural and Food Information System (AFIS) team at the SMAFCRD. The capacity of local IPs and Government actors should be built as part of this process.	Crop assessment tools were used to determine the amount of land being cultivated by the farmers and will also now be used (at the end of the season) to determine how much was actually harvested. CWW and its partners continue to support AFIS by collecting market information and sharing it with the Cluster. The Project M&E Officer has developed a number of data collection tools that are being used by the Project (which has also trained its staff in their use). In addition CWW submits a monthly Food Security Cluster Report to the FSC based on which an IPC report is produced. CWW also collects and shares regular market information with AFIS.
Facilitate and strengthen linkages between	Following the failure to link farmers with agro-dealers

Recommendation made in June	Actions taken to address the suggestions made in June
<p>smallholder farmers and agro-dealers to enable the prepositioning of farming inputs (seeds and appropriate tools) by agro-dealers and guarantee timely access to farm inputs by farmers before the planting season. There is need to ensure better/clearer understanding of the purpose of the agro-dealership arrangement by both parties (agro-dealers and VSLAs/farmer groups) and to establish a link between them before the onset of the rainy season.</p>	<p>due to high prices in the season that has just ended, the Project team went back to the drawing board to determine the way forward. The Project team is working with the PMCs to identify agro-dealers in their locations and negotiate prices for the inputs. A number of PMCs have met with the Project team and agreed on how to move forward. By the end of 2015, the Project team will have linked a number of groups and should be in the process of acquiring the inputs.</p>
<p>Strengthen and broaden the coordination and sharing of information with other implementing agencies in the State and other SORUDEV projects in order to harmonise the methodologies of extension service delivery and VSLA activities.</p>	<p>Much information is shared with IPs at FSL cluster meetings and State-level PSC meetings. Formal meetings are held with different partners depending on circumstances. CWW is a member of the FSL cluster and regularly attends FSL cluster coordination meetings (and as such has been able to share information with other members of the FSL cluster, including FAO on VSLA, the WFP on CFA, PIN on agro-dealership and WHH on FSTP implementation approaches and strategies).</p>
<p>Develop a Project exit and sustainability strategy jointly with Government and stakeholders in order to ensure each component of the Project is discussed and clearly understood. Most importantly, the document should clearly spell out how each component (extension services, animal traction, VSLAs and input supply, data and information management and linkage to markets and value chains) will be sustained after the Project ends.</p>	<p>The exit and sustainability strategy is under development. However, the SMAF has appointed some Extension Focal Points (staff) to work directly with the Project team in order to acquaint themselves with the Project approaches and provide technical and monitoring support. These arrangements are consistent with CWW's exit and sustainability strategy.</p>

Concern Worldwide should:

- CWW should create links between the Agro-dealers and the groups through the Payam PMCs which they have identified as the most effective vehicle. They should not wait until the rains begin before agro dealers are introduced to the groups. The groups are willing to make purchases so long as the prices are right. As a start, at group level, CWW should encourage each group to purchase five ploughs with which they will plough member's field in turn. Encourage the use a ballot to determine each member's turn. This will reduce bias.
- Commence or develop the strategy for the Telephone based IT remote support for extension workers and marketing information sharing it planned. At the moment there is no discussing to suggest this is been thought through. CWW response to this is that discussions is going on with the university doing the development of the software and the development is at an advanced stage
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- Print copies of the extension guides that was jointly developed with other organizations to equip the CAWHs, government Boma level extension staff and Lead Farmers with training and material in the field. CWW assures that they have been waiting to get feedback on the official launch and the way forward on the printing of bulk copies even for the Ministries
-

- Establish marketing groups and step the value addition component of the project. This is a weak link.
- Train the VSLA and marketing groups on business, income generating activities (IGA) and marketing skills to diversify sources of income.
- Take opportunities coming from the ZEAT BEAD Programmes to further extend support to the VSLA and FFS groups beyond the current implementation period. Respond to the call for proposal from FAO ZEAT BEAD.

Changes to project context

The situation in Northern Bahr el Ghazal has not changed significantly from the risks anticipated during the development of the project. Insecurity level heightened but not deteriorated during the period. Political instability has largely affected the Minister level official while the key technical staff though largely weak but remain stable.

However, the economic situation has changes significantly with the fluctuation and deterioration in the value of foreign currencies against the South Sudanese Pound (SSP). In line with the description of action, the SORUDEV programme implemented by Concern Worldwide focuses on improving smallholder production and incomes.

It continued to promote the establishment of an extension service to reach smallholders aimed at improving agronomic practices and knowledge. The action also works to improve market development and access.

Progress toward achieving project objectives in summary

- **Specific Result 1: Improved provision of and access to sustainable extension services for poor, young and/or female farmers so as to improve their knowledge and capacity to enhance food production and productivity**
For the current production year, a total of 4,050 households have been targeted to benefit from Project activities. A total of 14 Payams are covered by Project activities although the number of Payams varies from one County to the next (with 1,950 households targeted in Aweil West County, 900 households in Aweil Centre County and 1,200 households in Aweil North County).

The extension approach used by CWW is the Lead Farmer which is a variant of the FFS methodology promoted by the UN Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO). Ahead of the farming season, Lead Farmers were given a two-week training course by CWW and SMAF staff at the Nyamlell Demonstration Centre, at which 51 lead farmers and 56 CAHWs were trained in various extension methods (and also received a bicycle each to ease mobility). The lead farmers went on to train about 50 farmers in their locality (Boma). Though the CAHWs received bicycles their kits are yet to be distributed due to the unresolved need for a duty waiver by the Ministry of Finance to bring them into the country. These kits include equipment and drugs such as antibiotics, de-worming drugs (e.g. Albendazole) and antiseptic. Equipment includes automatic syringes, drenching guns, protective clothing, gumboots and de-horning tools. Despite not being fully equipped, the CAHWs participated in all vaccination exercises and campaigns conducted by the SMARF. Lead Farmers were trained in seed multiplication in order to create a group of suppliers of good-quality seed. Samples of seed were also distributed to the farmers to test their efficiency. Specifically, 51 Lead Farmers (46 men and 5 women) from Aweil North, West and Centre attended the training, which covered seed multiplication and propagation methodologies and principles, seed selection and sourcing, seed viability testing, quality control and seed processing, sorting, grading, storage and

marketing. The trainees received a total of 225 kg of Groundnut (local variety) and 76.5 kg of Sorghum (Gadamam). As a result, 51 seed multiplication gardens were established and planted by Lead Farmers (24 in Aweil North, 15 in Aweil West and 12 in Aweil Centre).

- **Specific Result 2: Improved market access, access to inputs and agricultural incomes for rural poor active smallholder farmers in Aweil Centre, Aweil North and Aweil West Counties of Northern Bahr-el-Ghazal State**

At the beginning of the season, 219 farmers were trained as trainers of trainers (ToTs) in animal traction (donkey- and ox-drawn ploughs) to support and train 50 groups and their Lead Farmers. This was followed by further field-level training of farmers' groups, after which they were introduced and linked to agro-dealers. It was envisaged that farmers would purchase the ox and donkey ploughs but this was not possible due to the high prices quoted by the agro-dealers.

Despite a lack of direct income from agricultural produce due to the bad season, farmers incorporated the VSLA methodology very well into their activities, with each group supported by a Lead Farmer as the village-level facilitator, 110 VSLA groups have been formed, with a total membership of 2,997 (1,636 men [54.6%] and 1,361 [45.4%]) and total savings mobilised in the 2015 season of SSP. 142,691 (equivalent to the official rate of USD. 44,590). Nearly all VSLA members have accessed loans in one way or another from their savings, primarily to pay school fees, meet medical bills or use the funds as start-up capital for other micro-businesses and enterprises. Women, who make up the majority of VSLA members, explained how being a member has increased their confidence and earned them respect and esteem in their communities. It is yet to be seen if these groups will mobilise some of their savings to buy farm implements in the coming season.

Sustainability of the Action

The programme has successfully moved from emergency to development implementation approach avoiding the distribution of input free of charge except for the demo plots. The VSLA groups are running and doing very well with members pooling their own monies and lending. The management seem very well establish and the follow up from CWW and LUYDA is been very good.

Strengthening of farmers groups and the training of CAWHs as community based groups is a very important part of sustainability pillar of this project. This is going well but do need to be further strengthened.

The third pillar of sustainability for the SORUDEV programme implemented by CWW and partner is building the capacity of local NGO through partnership. LUYDA is local and have been around in the operational areas long before CWW started her programmes. They know the people, social structure and their staff are all local. LUYDA capacity needs to be built while APAD requires more supervision to up the standard of implementation the programme in their location

Cross-cutting and other issues

EU Visibility: Apart from the T-shirts worn by some team members, visibility of the EU as the funding organisation is not apparent in most areas or among the groups visited. The TA mission recommends erecting signposts at Lead Farmer plots and producing banners for the VSLA groups. All items purchased with the Project fund, including laptops and the bicycles used by CAHWs, should be clearly marked with the Project logo.

Gender: The Project is gender-mainstreamed. Female representation is very high among the farming and VSLA groups. Women reported great improvement in their status as result of VSLA membership and also said that their esteem and respect in the home and community had increased, primarily as a result of being able to access micro-loans and get involved in farming. Women now feel they have control over their own money, which should be further tested because culturally, male domination is very strong in these rural communities. CWW should be sure to document some of these success stories.

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

- The facilitation of linkages between farmers and agro-dealers by NGOs raises high expectations among dealers, who presume the NGOs will buy the tools on behalf of the farmers, prompting them to charge higher prices for inputs than usual. This directly poses a challenge to the establishment of viable and dependable agro-dealership;
- Farmers remain highly vulnerable to erratic rainfall (with a dry spell in June-August particularly affecting the growth of Sorghum and Groundnut, the two major crops cultivated by farming beneficiaries);
- Savings among VSLA groups fell to an all-time low in June-August (although partially remedied by vegetable production near water sources under the Resilient Agriculture from improved Nutrition (RAIN project) implemented by PIN and CESVI.
- Lack of understanding at the SMAF of input acquisition and distribution has the potential to threaten Project delivery and turn beneficiaries against the implementing partners.

Recommendations

- CWW should revise the programme plan for the 2nd year.
- CWW should hold further discussions with the Extension Department of the SMAF to ensure a smoother relationship; the process was supported by the visiting monitor.
- The request of the DG of Livestock and Fisheries to visit CWW activities on the ground should be facilitated;
- At present there is no direct link between the Department of Cooperatives of the Ministry of Trade and the VSLA activities being implemented by the CWW SORUDEV Programme. A formal introduction is needed, with the additional aim of laying the ground for the development of VSLAs into cooperatives, which will require recognition by the Department. In addition the rural financing mechanism being developed by the FAO Zonal Effort for Agricultural Transformation/Bahr-el-Ghazal Rural Development (ZEAT BEAD) project should bring future benefits to properly registered groups;
- CWW must negotiate with the Ministry of Finance to permit entry into South Sudan of the CAHW kits already procured in Nairobi;
- A capacity building plan for both APAD and LUYDA is required in order to design and implement appropriate training for these two potential NGOs. CWW should see this as an element of its exit strategy (which is yet to be finalised);
- CWW should consider LUYDA's request for payment in USD to assuage the effects of price fluctuation; CWW is constraint to move on because LUYDA does not have a dollar account.
- APAD implementation needs to be very closely monitored by CWW field staff to ensure that APAD staff understand the VSLA methodology as extensively as other staff across the Project;
- VSLAs are strong but need to diversify their sources of income through the acquisition of business experience. CWW should thus prioritise the development of

appropriate training materials and their use by VSLA groups. Diversification of crops (via a market-orientated approach) and the launch of small trading through the micro-loans that members receive from their group savings are an essential part of the resilience effort to which this Project is contributing;

- CWW should prioritise the MTE of the programme, including a Household Economic Analysis and yield assessment, both of which are needed to track and verify progress made by the Project against its output and outcome indicators;
- SORUDEV beneficiaries need to be introduced to the input shop set up by People In Need (PIN) and an exchange visit planned between PIN, WHH and CWW for lesson learning;
- CWW should ensure that all farming groups with reasonable access to water engage in vegetable farming during the coming dry season;
- Environmental issues resulting from widespread bush fires were observed in every area visited by this mission. Awareness of bush fire control methods should be raised among the VSLA groups and if possible on local FM stations. If possible, the Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters (BRACED) project funded by the UK Department for International Development (DfID) should cooperate with SORUDEV in this endeavour;
- Experiment and try out Sorghum transplanting on a few plots at the Demonstration and Learning Centre and on some lead farmers plots early next season. This is important for adaptation.
- The programme should prepare a communication and visibility plan and submit it to the EUD for approval.
- The mission suggests that Concern begins encouraging farmers from now and not wait until the rains begin. Many farmers visited during the mission expressed their desire to purchase ox ploughs or obtain ploughs on loan. Concern has already made arrangements with the PMCs to negotiate on behalf and to liaise between the agro dealers and the farmers. The monitors encourage CWW to consider giving loans to some lead farmers (since this facility exist) while linking farmers in the VSLA groups to the agro dealers. Concern may also understudy the administration of similar loans by HARD in Western Bahr El Ghazal.

3 Programme Schedule

Dates: 2 to 9 November 2015

Locations: Aweil Centre, Aweil North and Aweil West Counties

Day/Date	County	Payam	Boma	Activity	Project	Agency
Monday, 02 nd November 2015	Aweil West	Gumjuer Centre	Nyamlel	Arrival/Planning and Briefing	SORUDEV, FSTP	CWW
				Briefing		
Tuesday, 03 rd Nov 2015	Aweil Centre	Awada	Awada	Meet beneficiaries (farmer group)/Cash for Work (Cfw)	FSTP	WHH
		Awada	Parwang	Meet beneficiaries (farmer group)	SORUDEV	CWW
		Aroyo	Longu Kon	Meet beneficiaries (farmer group) + Feed Road	SORUDEV	CWW
Wednesday, 04th Nov 2015	Aweil North	Malual North	Majak Bol	Meet beneficiaries (farmer group/ VSLA)	SORUDEV	CWW
		Malual West	Manyiel	Meet beneficiaries (farmer group/ women group/ VSLA)	SORUDEV	CWW
		Malual North	Gok Machar	Meet beneficiaries (farmer group)/ CFW	FSTP	CWW
Thursday, 05 Nov 2015	Aweil West	Ayat West	Lulic (Longpou)	Meet beneficiaries (farmer group/ VSLA)	SORUDEV	CWW
		Ayat East	Marial Bal (Langich)	Meet beneficiaries (farmer group)/ CFW	SORUDEV, FSTP	CWW, LYUDA
		Gumjuer East	Maper Ngor (Rolchol)	Meet beneficiaries (farmer group/ VSLA)/ Demonstration	SORUDEV	CWW
Friday, 06 November 2015	Aweil West	Aweil Town		Meet the Minister, DG of the state of Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Livestock & their team	SORUDEV, FSTP	CWW,WHH, APAD, LUYDA
		Mariam East	Maduany/ Malou Dut	Meet beneficiaries (farmer group/ VSLA)		APAD
Monday,09 November 2015		Nyamlel		Debriefing		CWW,WHH, APAD, LUYDA

4 People met and activities visited

1. Meeting with Bothwan Farming/VSLA Group members, Long Ur Kec Boma, Aroyo Payam (3 November 2015)

#	Name	Position	Gender
1	Mary Abuk Deng	Treasurer	Female
2	Bakhita Aluel Cui	Key holder	Female
3	Rebecca Abuk Akol	Key holder	Female
4	Mary Adeeng Deng	Member	Female
5	Maria Achan	Key holder	Female
6	Rebecca Mou Deng	Member	Female
7	Martin Deng Amou	Secretary	Male
8	Luka Lual Wieu	Member	Male
9	Jeremiah Garang	Chairman	Male
10	Santino Akeen Akeen	Member	Male
11	Marko Bol Ater	Member	Male
12	Jacob Ngong Anguei	Member	Male
13	Deng Akook	Member	Male
14	Peter Bol Wol	Member	Male

2. Meeting with Luktin Farming/VSLA Group Members, Kang Wangi Boma, Awada Payam (3 November 2015)

#	Name	Position	Gender
1	Kuki Pama	Lead farmer	Female
2	Alkir aduanga	Key holder	Male
3	Angom Earnest	Member	Male
4	Ayouyi Upiou	Member	Female
5	Ali Chut	Secretary	Male
6	Bol Juka	Member	Male
7	Adong Uliri	Member	Female
8	Arit Omon	Member	Female
9	Adut Adam	Key holder	Female
10	Ajeith Youo	Member	Female

3. Meeting with Weerbei Farming/VSLA Group Members, Maduany Payam, Mariam East (6 November 2015)

#	Name	Position	Gender
1	Garang Dung Akol	Chairperson	Male
2	Ater Kalong Loof	Deputy Chair Person	Male
3	Bol Wol Tong	Treasurer	Male
4	Dut Garang Kuch	Money Counter	Male
5	Chan Majok Malual	Secretary	Male
6	Duk Garang Awach	Key holder	Female
7	Anei Bol Nhial	Key Holder	Male
8	Mathiang Kon Gorang	Key holder	Male
9	AkeTong	Member	Male
11	Tito Tong Tong	Member	Male
12	Diing Tong Tong	Member	Male
13	Deng Atak Ariath	Member	Male
14	Deng Dhan Wany	Member	Male
15	Tong Tong Tong	Member	Male
16	Geng Tong Ateny	Member	Male
17	Mawien Dep Akol	Member	Male
18	Achan Dhiou Akuar	Member	Female

19	Michael Kuch Woi	Member	Male
20	Deng Adim Deng	Member	Male
21	Zakaria Majok Malual	Member	Male
22	Deng Deng Deng	Member	Male
23	Marko Dut Atak	Lead Farmer	Male

4. Meeting with Loi Kudu Farming/VSLA Group Members, Maloul Dut Boma, Mariam East (6 November 2015)

#	Name	Position	Gender
1	Deng Akol Chan	Chairperson	Male
2	Giir Deng Tong	Deputy Chair Person	Male
3	Akol Garang Deng	Money Counter	Male
4	Noon Akol Deng	Member	Male
5	Nyaiel Ngong Bok	Treasurer	Male
6	Dul Majok Akol	Key holder	Female
7	Rol Bol Bot	Key Holder	Male
8	Garang Dut	Key holder	Male
9	Garang Atol Garang	Member	Male
10	Abuk Atem Garang	Key holder	Male
11	Abuk Apath Deng	Member	Male
12	Aluet Padhie Wol	Member	Male
13	Abuk Ayuel Kuol	Member	Male
14	Aghol Agany Kuot	Member	Male
15	Nyibol Dut Deng	Key Holder	Male
16	Abuk Yom Ajiong	Member	Male
17	Ton Akot	Member	Female
18	Ajok Nuer Deng	Member	Male

5. Feedback Meeting Session with Concern Worldwide SORUDEV and FSTP staff (9 November 2015)

#	Name	Position	Organisation	Phone Number
1	Chol Aboul	FSTP Project Manager	Concern Worldwide	0955532735
2	Bida Emmanuel	Agri Business Advisor	Concern Worldwide	0956965060
3	Amin Bright	Project Officer	Concern Worldwide	0924041854
4	Irangu Stella	Project Officer	Concern Worldwide	0955213505
5	Akena Ceaser Poi	Adaptive Research Officer	Concern Worldwide	0955165741
6	Gabriel Gai Majok	Project Manager	Luyda	0920060129
7	Michal Piol	Executive Director	APAD	0955475794
8	Dominic Goran Dut	Finance Officer	APAD	0924208836
9	Lewis Karienyeh	FIM Programme Manager	Concern Worldwide	0914502597

5 Picture Gallery



VSLA group observed in action in Aweil Centre



Meeting a farmer / VSLA group in Ayat West Payam

VSLA Loan Form				
Name	Date	Amount	Service	Amount
01. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
02. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
03. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
04. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
05. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
06. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
07. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
08. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
09. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
10. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
11. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
12. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
13. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
14. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
15. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
16. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
17. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
18. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
19. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
20. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
21. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
22. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
23. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
24. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
25. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
26. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00
27. Aduh, Mui, Aduh	11/1/2015	100.00	10.00	10.00

The VSLA record book showing contribution and signature



Witnessing a mostly women VSLA group in Malual West Payam



Witnessing VSLA in action



Project Staff and the VSLA group in Ayat East Payam



VSLA member's pile of Sorghum in a grain store up the rack of a farming group member in Ayat West Payam



VSLA member in a grain store up on the rack in Ayat West Payam



Processing Sorghum with a grinding stone under the grain store



In the front of the lead farmer's storage



Women farming and VSLA group in Aguat, Gumjuer East Payam



Seed drying on the rack by the lead farmer in Gumjuer East Payam



Groundnut harvested on group farming

Annex 1 Project Summary

Title of the Project	"Implementation of SORUDEV Smallholders' Component in Aweil West, Aweil North and Aweil Centre, Northern Bahr-el-Ghazal State"
Implementing Agency	Concern Worldwide
Location(s) of the action: specify country(ies) and region(s) that will benefit from the action	Selected Payams (14) in Aweil Centre, Aweil North and Aweil West Counties, Northern Bahr-el-Ghazal State
Total duration of the action (months)	36 months from 1 June 2014-31 May 2017
Objectives of the action	<p>Overall objective: Contribute to increased food security, reduced vulnerability and enhanced livelihoods of rural households in NBeG</p> <p>Specific objective: Sustainably increase agricultural production and agricultural income of smallholder farmers in through the setup of functional agricultural and livestock advisory and extension services that effectively reaches smallholder farmers, particularly poor farmers, youth and women farmers.</p>
Target group(s) ¹	The general farming community, with a focus on poor and productive young and female farmers.
Final beneficiaries ²	4,500 poor households
Estimated results	<p><i>R1 – Improved provision of and access to sustainable extension services for poor, young and/or female farmers so as to improve their knowledge and capacity to enhance food production and productivity</i></p> <p><i>R2 – Improved market access, access to inputs and agricultural incomes for rural poor active smallholder farmers in Aweil Centre, Aweil North and Aweil West Counties of Northern Bahr-el-Ghazal State</i></p>
Main activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening the network of community based extension workers. • Strengthening the capacity of Government Agriculture and Livestock (SMoAF and SMoARF) and local NGO staff to support Lead Farmers and CAHWs. • Development of a mobile phone based remote support system for County Extension Workers, Lead Farmers and CAHWs • Promote Farmer – Farmer Extension. • Development of private sector Agro and Vet input and plough spares suppliers • Development of the Nyamlel Agriculture Demonstration and Learning Centre as a focus for extension service training, technology trials and demonstration. • Promotion of animal traction, including minimum tillage equipment. • Create a diverse and commercially sustainable seed supply. • Create a network of fruit and tree nurseries in Aweil Centre, Aweil North and Aweil West. • Support the marketing of agricultural and livestock products. <p>Repair and improvement of critical points in the feeder road network</p>
Number of technical staff	6

¹ "Target groups" are the groups/entities who will directly benefit from the action

² "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

Names of Participants	Gender	Position	Telephone	Email
Lewis Karienyeh	M	Food, Incomes & Markets (FIM) Programme Manager (in charge of Livelihoods Portfolio)		
Chol Abuol Chol	M	FSTP Project Manager		
Irongu Stella	F	Project Officer – SORUDEV		
Achier Garang	M	Assistant Project Officer – SORUDEV		
Garang Ayang	M	Assistant Project Officer – SORUDEV		
Anthony Hassan	M	Community Supervisor – FSTP		
Kenyi Robert Kenedy	M	Project Manager – SORUDEV		
Wol Deng Akeen	M	Assistant Project Officer – SORUDEV		
Abraham Kuol Mathet	M	Assistant Project Officer – SORUDEV		
Joseph Aguer Aguer	M	Assistant Project Officer – SORUDEV		
Bida Emmanuel	M	Agribusiness Advisor		
Moses Ngor Garang	M	Assistant Project Officer – SORUDEV		
Dudeng Mathew	M	Assistant Project Officer – SORUDEV		
Andrew Deng	M	Assistant Project Officer – SORUDEV		
Achai Deng Kuac	F	Assistant Project Officer – FSTP		
William Mawien	M	Assistant Project Officer – Adaptive Research		
Michael Piol Ngor	M	Executive - Director – APAD		
Dominic Garang Dut	M	Project Officer – APAD		
Isaac Yual Tong	M	Project Officer – LUYDA		
Gabriel Gai	M	Project Manager – LUYDA		
Amin Bright	M	Project Officer – SORUDEV		
Ukuano Jackson	M	Community Supervisor – FSTP		
William Deng Tong	M	Payam Team Leader – SORUDEV		
Peter Majok	M	Assistant Project Officer – SORUDEV		
Mary Abuk	F	Community Mobilizer – SORUDEV		
Gabriel Kur	M	Payam Team Leader		
Akena Ceaser Poul	M	Project Officer – Adaptive Research		

Annex 3 Work Plan: February 2015 to November 2015

Project Title: South Sudan Rural Development Project (SORUDEV)																	
ACTIVITIES	Target	Beneficiary Numbers			2016												
		M	F	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	
A1.1 Project Management																	
1.1.1 Conduct Project Management & advisory committee meetings at State, County & Payam level	208																
A1.2 Strengthen the network of community based extension workers																	
A1.2.3 On-job refresher training for lead farmers & CAHWs	2			144													
A1.2.4 Lead farmers train, establish demonstration sites	81			81													
A1.2.5 Conduct exchange visits and farmer field days	28																
A1.2.6 Peer monitoring of extension workers	4			81													
A1.2.7 Provide incentives to lead farmers and CAHWs				144													
A1.2.8 Provide support supervision to lead farmers and CAHWs				144													
A1.2.9. Employing remote mobile phone based IT support for frontline extensionists				144													
A1.3 Development of the Nyamlel Agriculture Demonstration and Learning Centre as a focus for extension service training, technology trials and demonstration.																	
A1.3.1 Construct Fence, install solar power, solar pump and drip irrigation, procure equipment and furniture	1																
A1.3.2 Conduct trials and demonstrations for selected staple crop varieties, new crops and vegetables	40																
A1.3.3 Conduct farmer field days/ open days for centre	3			81													
A1.3.4 Conduct extension workers review meetings in centre	3			81													
A1.4 Promotion of animal traction, including minimum tillage equipment																	
A1.4.3 Animal traction adaptive research at the ADLC	2																
A1.4.4 Identification and training of black smiths	1			8													
A 1.5 Strengthen capacity of government and CBOs to support extension services																	
A1.5.1 Conduct training for government & CBO staff on FFS methodology and approach	1			10													

A1.5.2 Training of government and CBO staff on M&E, Participatory planning methodology & budgeting	1			20												
A1.6 Develop and rollout mobile phone based remote support system for county extension workers, lead farmers and CAHWs																
A1.6.1 Develop frontline SMS based management tools	81															
A1.6.2 Modify livestock Guru or similar software for android OS and the South Sudan context	56															
A1.6.3 Mobile phone based livestock epidemiology/ disease tracking software.	56															
A1.6.4 Train government and NGO technical staff to use and manage ICT and mobile phone based tools	1															
A1.6.5 Development of online Numeracy skills lessons for agriculture and livestock staff	1															
A2.1 support the marketing of agricultural and livestock products																
A2.1.1 Staff training in marketing	1															
A2.1.2 Establish marketing groups & value chain addition	14															
A2.1.3 Form & train Marketing groups in business skills	1															
A2.1.4 Conduct VCA for selected products																
A2.1.5 Provide mentoring support to marketing groups																
A2.1.6 Support for income generating activities in VSLAs																
A2.2 Repair and improvement of critical points in the feeder road network																
A2.2.1 Community Mobilisation & sensitization																
A2.2.2 Coordinate & implement capacity building activities	5															
A2.2.3 Community engagement plan	6															
A2.3 Create a diverse and commercially sustainable seed supply																
A2.3.1 Seasonal seed fairs at Payam level & support seed producer groups and private seed suppliers	3															
A2.3.2 Promote Seeds multiplication for selected varieties of crops in the community	81															
A2.4 Development of private sector Agro and Vet inputs and plough spares suppliers																
A2.4.1 Identify existing and potential agro-vet input and plough dealers	5															
A2.4.2 Trial community run agro-input shop																

A2.4.3 Facilitate Farmers access to agro-vet inputs through Agro-dealers by providing small recoverable loans																
A2.4.4 Training of agro-vet input dealers in business skills and agriculture.	1															
A2.4.5 Technical support for the registration of agro-vet input dealers																
A2.4.6 Technical support to SMoAF and SMoARF to provide quality control of inputs																
A2.4.7 Provision of subsidised initial stock for CAHWs.																
A2.5 Create a network of fruit and tree nurseries in Aweil centre, Aweil north and Aweil west																
A2.5.1 selection of nursery managers and sites	8															
A2.5.2 Training of new nursery managers by existing nursery managers	1															
A2.5.3 Procurement of materials and equipment for tree nursery managers	Assorted															
A2.5.4 Select sites and provide start up kits for nurseries	8															
A2.5.5 Link nurseries to agro-input shops and government nurseries																
A2.6 Challenge the current status of women farmers through community conversations and support female lead farmers to mentor female beneficiary farmers																
A2.6.1 Form community conversation groups	40															
A2.6.2 Conduct community conversation with beneficiaries' groups	160															
A2.6.3 Develop and implement action plans																
A2.6.4 Follow up implementation of action plans																
A3.0 Monitoring & Evaluation																
3.1 Harvest yield analysis (crop cuts)																
3.3 HEA annual data collection																
3.4 Mid-term review																
3.5 Livestock longitudinal surveys(annual)																
3.6 Final project Evaluation	1															
3.7 Reporting																

Annex 4 Progress toward achieving objectives

Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Achievement as of September 2014 Monitoring Visit	Achievement as of June 2015 Monitoring Visit	Achievement as of November 2015 Monitoring Visit
Overall objective Contribute to the empowerment of rural women and vulnerable groups to increase food security, reduce vulnerability to malnutrition and natural disasters and enhance livelihoods in Northern Bahr-el-Ghazal	<p>% of children under 5 who are suffering from global acute malnutrition (GAM) and severe acute malnutrition (SAM) during the hunger season (July- August) disaggregated by target area</p> <p>Average number of months in the past year during which targeted farmers struggled to feed their families from any food source</p>	Alternative source required (given that GIZ is no longer involved).	<p>GAM: <15% and SAM: <2% during the hunger season</p> <p>Baseline Values</p> <p>Aweil West: GAM: 17.0% (14.0 – 20.6 95% C.I.) SAM: 1.8 % (0.9 – 3.5 95% C.I.)</p> <p>Aweil North GAM: 15.8% (12.8 – 19.4 95% C.I.) SAM: 1.4% (0.7 – 2.9 95% C.I.)</p> <p>Aweil Centre GAM: 21.1% (17.1 – 25.9 95% C.I.) SAM: 5.7% (3.8 – 8.6 95% C.I.)</p> <p>Target: <1 month</p> <p>Baseline Value: 2 months for both female- and male-headed households</p>	The results of the recently concluded SMART Survey should help assess progress.
Specific objective Sustainably increase agricultural production and income among smallholder farmers via the setup of functional agricultural and livestock advisory and extension services that effectively reach smallholder farmers	<p>Increase in the average monthly income of targeted households from all sources, disaggregated by gender of household head</p> <p>Average yields (kg/ha sun-dried grain) of Sorghum, Groundnut and Simsim among targeted smallholder farmers for the last completed cropping season</p> <p>Average household asset index score of targeted households, disaggregated by gender of household head</p> <p>Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Average number of food groups consumed by targeted households in the previous 24 hours 2) % of households consuming food from more than 4 food groups in the previous 24 hours <p>% of targeted farming households consuming at least 2 meals in the previous 24 hours</p>	<p>Too specific to be an "objective". A more general OVI is required as this is too specific, relating to actual income. A baseline survey is currently under formulation and development. The age classification could be deleted as few know their actual age. Does this imply "progress"?</p>	<p>Target: SSP 160</p> <p>Baseline Value: 195 SSP (107 SSP for female-headed households and 212 SSP for male-headed households) for October 2014</p> <p>Target:</p> <p>Sorghum: 1,200 kg/ha Groundnuts (unshelled): 1,200 kg/ha Sesame: 500 kg/ha</p> <p>Baseline Values (based on farmer recall): Sorghum: 520.2kg/ha Groundnuts: 602.9kg/ha Sesame (Simsim): 493 kg/ha</p> <p>Target: 20/60</p> <p>Baseline value: 11 of a maximum of 60</p> <p>Target: 8</p> <p>Baseline value: 7 of a maximum of 12 food groups</p> <p>Target: 80%</p>	Household economic analyses and yield assessments are yet to be done to ascertain the impact of the Project on agricultural production and incomes among smallholder farmers. However, early data indicate very little or no increment in agricultural productivity this year due to the period of drought that affected the growth of crops.

Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Achievement as of September 2014 Monitoring Visit	Achievement as of June 2015 Monitoring Visit	Achievement as of November 2015 Monitoring Visit
Result 1 Improved provision of and access to sustainable extension services for poor, young and/or female farmers so as to improve their knowledge and capacity to enhance food production and productivity	50% of the general population has access to extension and advisory services, disaggregated by gender of household head, age and wealth quintile 80% of those accessing extension/advisory services are satisfied with the quality of the services they receive, disaggregated by gender of household head, age and wealth quintile Nyamlell ALDC established and functional as an extension worker support system Average yields (sun-dried) of targeted crops equal to or exceeding after average rains: Sorghum: 1,200 kg/ha; Groundnut (unshelled): 1,200 kg/ha; Simsim: 500 kg/ha; Rice (rain-fed, unhusked): 800 kg/ha	Again too general. Should refer to the part of the population served by the Project. In addition, age should again be deleted. Measured how? Specify a method and sample size or eliminate. Delete reference to age. Vague. Specify either a target number of persons to be trained, days utilised for demonstration or the number of workshops/ courses to be convened. This is more a performance indicator than an impact indicator and can be valid only if current production data is included in the baseline.	81 Lead Farmers and 56 CAHWs have been identified, selected, trained and equipped to offer extension services to farmers. All have been provided with bicycles to facilitate movement. Management and steering committees for the ADLC have been established and are working toward self-sustainability. Solar power, drip irrigation and soil-testing equipment, among other items, have been procured to make the Centre operational.	Project staff, together with lead farmers, continue to provide extension support to farmers in the form of on-field-training, monitoring and advisory support. Through field days, farmers have been able to converge at the Lead Farmer's demonstration garden to share experiences and lessons learnt from agricultural activities. Change has been very slow-coming to the community, but is expected to improve in the next Project calendar year.
	Year-on-year reduction in livestock mortality and morbidity among cattle, oxen, poultry, shoats and donkeys Soil fertility and soil structure in ox-ploughed fields (soil texture, bulk density, infiltration rates, Soil Organic Matter (SOM), Cation Exchange Capacity (CEC), NPK, pH)	Measured against what? Is there a baseline figure? Can (then) never be measured, unless CAHWs provide the data. Is this likely? Are they literate, numerate and disciplined enough to prepare monthly reports? Better to look at increased levels of treatment and morbidity management (though this is also dependent on data from CAHWs).		

Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Achievement as of September 2014 Monitoring Visit	Achievement as of June 2015 Monitoring Visit	Achievement as of November 2015 Monitoring Visit
		What is the objective? What is the OVI? Delete and replace.		
Result 2 Improved market access, access to inputs and agricultural income for rural poor smallholder farmers in Aweil North, Aweil West and Aweil Centre Counties of Northern Bahr-el-Ghazal State	20% of marketing groups supported by the Project achieve financial sustainability within the Project period 70% of marketing groups supported by the Project achieve operational sustainability within the Project period Increase in the number of months during which villages are accessible by road	A rather modest target. What is "operational sustainability"? Specify/set criteria. Initially related to a "cash for assets" component which is no longer included in the programme. Delete and replace with an OVI measuring "improved access to inputs via market sources" or similar.		Marketing groups are yet to be formed and this should be done in the next quarter. An assessment will be conducted of each group to ascertain the type(s) of value chain that could be established, after which CWW will conduct relevant capacity-building activities. Part of CWW's exit and sustainability strategy would be to gradually develop these marketing groups into marketing cooperatives that may be registered as legal entities and open up marketing outlets for agricultural produce in the community. This in turn will serve the long-term goal of linking farmers to markets through collective marketing. The Gok Machar-Mayom Angok Road rehabilitation project is expected to link all productive areas covered by the Project to markets by mid-2016. Farmers have so far primarily relied on their own stock of seeds to plant; however, CWW will organise a seed fair in the next quarter so that farmers can easily acquire seeds and tools from private market suppliers.

Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Achievement as of September 2014 Monitoring Visit	Achievement as of June 2015 Monitoring Visit	Achievement as of November 2015 Monitoring Visit
Activities under Result 1 <i>A1.1 Strengthening of the network of community-based extension workers</i> A1.1.1 Training of staff in extension packages A1.1.2 Surveillance of existing extension workers and CAHWs A1.1.3 Identification, training and equipping of lead farmers and CAHWs A1.1.4 Establishment of demonstration sites by Lead Farmers A1.1.5 Conducting of exchange visits and farmer field days A1.1.6 Establishment of a peer monitoring system for extension workers A1.1.7 Provision of support supervision to Lead Farmers and CAHWs A1.1.8 Mass-media promotion (radio, posters and others)	Means <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint field surveys (NGOs, CBOs and Government) Community shortlisting of new candidates Field assessment of shortlisted candidates Provision of bicycles Community selection of beneficiaries according to Project criteria Verification of beneficiaries by Project staff Beneficiary registration Setup of complaints mechanisms to handle disputes over selection 	CWW will deploy one Extension Officer per Payam (14 in total) and one Lead Farmer per Boma (84). Lead Farmers should be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 18 years of age Resident in the Boma Of good standing Literate and numerate Approved by community members Cultivating more than 2 Feddan Willing to hold demonstrations on their own plot Willing to be trained and to train peers in turn Lead farmers will be paid an incentive of 30 SSP for every training session conducted. Selection will require a method of verification.	36 staff (from both CWW and IPs) were trained in agricultural extension packages. Areas of training include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adult learning and facilitation skills Agronomic practices for key crops and vegetables Soil and water conservation practices Agricultural extension concepts Agro-forestry and nursery management Animal traction technology Reporting, record keeping and action planning A survey was carried out of existing extension workers and CAHWs in partnership with the SMAFCRD. 81 lead farmers and 56 CAHWs were identified and trained. All lead farmers and CAHWs have been provided with bicycles to aid movement and the procurement of CAHW kits is underway. This is on-going and demonstration sites have been established in Lead Farmers' fields for the training of farmers. Support supervision is being provided to Lead Farmers as the planting season starts. For Lead Farmers involved in the testing of improved seed varieties, demonstrations are being conducted of different methods of planting (such as planting in rows).	56 lead farmers were trained in seed multiplication and provided with seeds for multiplication (each farmer received 1.5 kg of Sorghum and 4 kg of Groundnut). Farmer field days were organised during the last quarter in order to bring farmers from various Bomas to the Lead Farmer demonstration plot to share their experiences and learn from each other's failures and successes. Together with Lead Farmers, CWW field staff have been providing regular extension and supervision support to farmers during the growing season. 29 Lead Farmers' demonstration gardens were established and planted (10 in Aweil North, 9 in Aweil West and 10 in Aweil Centre) along with an additional 24 at the ADLC. The main crops grown include Maize, Sorghum, Soybean, Cowpea and Millet.
<i>A1.3 Development of the Nyamlell ADLC as a focus for extension service training, technology trials and demonstration</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solar power Tank Solar pump Dormitories Tukuls 	Underway.	A management committee and steering committee for the ADLC have been established and have held 5 and 3 meetings respectively. Membership includes CWW, Welthungerhilfe and the Minister and Director General of	The solar power equipment has been procured and installed at the ADLC. The drip irrigation system has not yet been installed as some key components (parts) are

Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Achievement as of September 2014 Monitoring Visit	Achievement as of June 2015 Monitoring Visit	Achievement as of November 2015 Monitoring Visit
<p>A1.3.1 Establishment of a management committee and business plan</p> <p>A1.3.2 Capital investment</p> <p>A1.3.3 Conducting of trials and demonstrations for selected staple crop varieties, new crops and vegetables</p> <p>A1.3.4 Conducting of farmer field days and Centre open days</p> <p>A1.3.5 Conducting of extension worker review meetings at the Centre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toilets • Chairs and tables • Research equipment • Attendance at regional research conferences 		<p>Agriculture and Forestry.</p> <p>A business plan has been developed and shared with the SMAFCRD.</p> <p>Solar power and drip irrigation equipment have been procured for the ADLC and are awaiting installation.</p> <p>Soil-testing equipment has been procured for the ADLC and delivered to the site.</p> <p>The following local staple crop varieties were tested in 2014:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local sorghum (good) • Local cassava (good) • Pigeon pea (failed due to poor rains) • Cowpea (good) • Green gram (good) • Egyptian bean (failed due to poor rains) <p>A number of improved seeds are slated for trial at the Centre and in selected Lead Farmers' fields in 2015. These include Sorghum, Maize, Finger millet, Simsim (sesame), Amaranthus, Aubergine, Tomato, Papaya, Soybean, Bush bean and Pearl millet.</p>	<p>yet to be delivered to the site.</p> <p>The Centre is now well furnished with the necessary office facilities; as a result two Project staff plus Government extensionists are now based or working full-time at the Centre. In addition the Hall is hired out for meetings and training to provide extra revenue.</p> <p>No tukuls have been erected.</p> <p>Preference has been given to the construction of a fence around the Centre rather than tukuls as the building is currently exposed to intrusion by both humans and animals.</p>
<p>A1.4 Promotion of animal traction, including minimum tillage equipment</p> <p>A1.4.1 Identification and training of trainers for animal traction</p> <p>A1.4.2 Distribution of ploughs and rippers</p> <p>A1.4.3 Animal traction adaptive research at the ADLC</p> <p>A1.4.4 Training of blacksmiths</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport • Vouchers • Collaboration with Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Suisse • Jab planters, ox-drawn rippers, ox-drawn direct drill seeders, weeders • Metal stock • Forge and fuel • Anvils • Arc/gas welder and consumables • Trainers • Hacksaws, cold chisels, angle grinder • Generator 		<p>This has been done in the 3 Counties as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aweil North: 115 farmers (109 men and 6 women), 108 donkeys and 10 pairs of bulls trained • Aweil West: 85 farmers (65 men and 20 women), 51 donkeys and 10 pairs of bulls trained • Aweil Centre: 19 farmers (13 men and 6 women), 18 donkeys and 1 horse trained <p>No distribution has been made of ploughs or rippers.</p>	<p>Linkages are being forged to enable farmers to acquire ploughs for animal traction through agro-dealers. Trained trainers in animal traction will be required to roll out this training to their groups in the next quarter as the groups acquire their ploughs.</p> <p>Additional animal traction training has been conducted at the ADLC, where a pair of bulls and a donkey were trained along with 4 community volunteers</p>

Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Achievement as of September 2014 Monitoring Visit	Achievement as of June 2015 Monitoring Visit	Achievement as of November 2015 Monitoring Visit
			<p>The following animal traction implements procured for testing at the ADLC are awaiting delivery to the site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 ox-drawn rippers • 2 donkey-drawn ripper • 3 ox-drawn seeders/planters • 5 Li seeders/planters • 2 donkey-drawn planters • 3 ox-drawn weeders • 2 donkey-drawn weeders 	<p>(gardeners). The following implements are on transit to the site in Northern Bahr-el-Ghazal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 ox-drawn rippers • 2 donkey-drawn rippers • 3 ox-drawn seeders/planters • 5 Li seeders/planters • 2 donkey-drawn planters • 3 ox-drawn weeders • 2 donkey-drawn weeders
<p><i>A1.5 Strengthening of Government capacity to support extension services</i> A1.5.1 Conducting of capacity/training needs assessment of the SMAFCRD and CBOs A1.5.2 Procurement of equipment for the SMAFCRD and NGOs A1.5.3 Conducting of capacity training to address capacity gaps</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IT equipment and training • Bicycles and motorbikes • Running costs (ownership issues) • Animal health equipment • Soil-testing equipment 		<p>Capacity assessments have been conducted of the SMAFCRD and reports produced. Motorbikes, laptop computers and internet modems have been procured and are awaiting handover to the SMAFCRD and SMARF. Community-Based Organisations (CBOs) will only receive motorbikes. Capacity building is on-going.</p>	<p>5 laptop computers and 5 internet modems were distributed to the SMAF and SMARF (with 3 of each given to the SMAFCRD and 2 of each to the SMARF). 3 motorbikes were also provided (2 to the SMAFCRD and 1 to the SMARF). 2 staff members of the SMAFCRD are attending a 9-month agricultural training course at the Crop Training Centre in Yei with support from CWW. Additional capacity building for Government extensionists is on-going.</p>
<p><i>A1.6 Development and rollout of a mobile phone-based remote support system for County Extension Workers, Lead Farmers and CAHWs</i> A1.6.1 Development of Frontline SMS-based</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobile phones • Software • IT officer and technical support (from Dublin IT) • Technical support from frontline software developers (optional) • Tablet computers and solar chargers • Software development costs 		<p>Mobile phones are being procured and extension staff will be trained in how to use them once the phones are available. Tablets were bought and used to conduct the baseline survey.</p>	<p>A request has been made for the procurement of solar phones and consultations are underway with relevant software developers in Dublin to recommend the installation of suitable software.</p>

Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Achievement as of September 2014 Monitoring Visit	Achievement as of June 2015 Monitoring Visit	Achievement as of November 2015 Monitoring Visit
<p>management tools</p> <p>A1.6.2 Modification of Livestock Guru or similar software for Android OS in line with the South Sudanese context</p> <p>A1.6.3 Mobile phone-based livestock epidemiology/disease-tracking software</p> <p>A1.6.4 Training of Government and NGO technical staff to use and manage ICT and mobile phone-based tools</p> <p>A1.6.5 Development of online numeracy training for agricultural and livestock staff</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field testing and evaluation SIM cards Cheap smartphones or tablets with GPS capability 			
<p>Activities under Result 2</p> <p><i>A2.1 Support to the marketing of agricultural and livestock products</i></p> <p>A2.1.1 Establishment of marketing groups and value chain addition</p> <p>A2.1.2 Value Chain Analysis and selection of value chains</p> <p>A2.1.3 Formation of marketing groups and the provision of training in business skills</p> <p>A2.1.4 Provision of micro-grants to marketing groups</p>	<p>Registration of members (DDG)</p> <p>In-house training in Value Chain Analysis through CWW's Interaction with Markets Advisor</p>		<p>Given that this is the first production season under SORUDEV, marketing groups have not yet been formed and no value chain addition has been done.</p> <p>A market assessment was undertaken in January 2015 according to which some core value chains were identified and recommendations made.</p> <p>The following VSLAs have been formed, trained and supported with saving boxes and accessories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16 groups in Aweil Centre (savings of 6,374 SSP) 54 groups in Aweil West (savings of 55,350 SSP) <p>21 groups in Aweil North (savings of 32,040 SSP)</p>	<p>Marketing groups are yet to be formed and this should be done in the next quarter. An assessment will be conducted of each group to ascertain the type(s) of value chain that could be established, after which CWW will conduct relevant capacity-building activities.</p> <p>Part of CWW's exit strategy is to gradually develop these marketing groups into marketing cooperatives that may be registered as legal entities and open up marketing outlets for agricultural produce in the community. This in turn will serve the long-term goal of linking</p>

Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Achievement as of September 2014 Monitoring Visit	Achievement as of June 2015 Monitoring Visit	Achievement as of November 2015 Monitoring Visit
				farmers to markets through collective marketing.
<p><i>A2.2 Repair and improvement of critical points in the feeder road network</i></p> <p>A2.2.1 Discussion with the State Ministry of Works, SMAF, WFP and GIZ to prioritise the repair of culverts, bridges and road sections and agreement with WFP to provide food/cash for work (FfW or CfW) for repairs</p> <p>A2.2.2 Execution of road repairs using FfW or CfW</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand tools • Vibrating roller • Truck hire 	Beyond the direct scope of the Project (FfW and CfW).	This is being done by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) through a Call for Proposals for community mobilisation, sensitisation and capacity-building activities for the Mayom Angok-Gok Machar feeder road in Aweil North County. The proposal has been submitted to UNOPS.	UNOPS has awarded CWW a contract to undertake the Community Mobilisation and Sensitisation component of the Gok Machar-Mayom Angok Road Project at the end of August 2015. The recruitment of 2 Payam supervisors for the Project is at the advertising stage. Project inception meetings have been completed at County, Payam and Boma level. 15 Project Management Committees have been established at County, Payam and Boma level and informed of their roles and responsibilities. Road alignment negotiations and mapping have been completed in Malual North and are on-going in Malual West to Mayom Angok.
<p><i>A2.3 Creation of a diverse and commercially sustainable seed supply</i></p> <p>A2.3.1 Seasonal seed fairs at Payam level to support seed producer groups and private seed suppliers</p> <p>A2.3.2 Adaptation trials of new vegetable and crop varieties at the ADLC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of basic seed • Training • Quality control • Storage facilities • Marketing skills • Drip irrigation equipment 	Encourage local traders to procure and stock essential agricultural inputs.	New vegetable and staple crop varieties have been procured and are being tried at the ADLC and in the fields of 31 selected Lead Farmers. A seed store has been constructed at the Centre with funding from Welthungerhilfe. A drip irrigation set has been bought for the Centre and is awaiting installation.	Trials of new vegetables and staple crops are on-going at the ADLC, one of the new objectives of which is to mobilise a farmer group or VSLA to set up vegetable enterprises at the ADLC and train them in business skills (since the workability of such trials has become costly and unsustainable). To ensure continuous production throughout the year, CWW will install a complete set of solar-

Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Achievement as of September 2014 Monitoring Visit	Achievement as of June 2015 Monitoring Visit	Achievement as of November 2015 Monitoring Visit
				powered drip irrigation systems at the Centre to help irrigate the crops and reduce their reliance on rain as part of research activities of the Centre.
<p><i>A2.4 Development of private sector agricultural and veterinary inputs and suppliers of plough spares</i></p> <p>A2.4.1 Identification of existing and potential agro-veterinary input and plough dealers</p> <p>A2.4.2 Testing of a community-run agro-input shop</p> <p>A2.4.3 Provision of business start-up loans for wholesale agro-veterinary input dealers through banks and microfinance institutions</p> <p>A2.4.4 Training of agro-veterinary input dealers in business skills and agriculture</p> <p>A2.4.5 Technical support to the registration of agro-veterinary input dealers</p> <p>A2.4.6 Technical support to the SMAFCRD for quality control of inputs</p> <p>A2.4.7 Provision of subsidised initial stock to agro-veterinary retail dealers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial stock on credit Training materials 	<p>This should not be done by the community but rather by an entrepreneur or company, for which a traders' licence will be needed.</p> <p>Reconsider. Subsidies cannot be extended to farmers; hence this approach would entail increased profits for traders. The justification given is that traders need to be encouraged to enter the market, e.g. by stocking animal traction equipment. Unfortunately, this logic is flawed.</p>	<p>14 potential agro-input dealers were identified and 6 of them recommended for the signature of an MoU with SORUDEV: 1 each in Awada and Aroyo (Aweil Centre), 2 in Wedweil (Aweil West) and 1 each in Pamat and Gok Machar (Aweil North).</p> <p>The criteria for the selection of agro-dealers were agreed with other partners implementing FSTP projects (People in Need/CESVI, Welthungerhilfe).</p> <p>Activities 2.4.2 and 2.4.3 are not being carried out and should be implemented once the MoU are signed.</p> <p>The CAHW kits are being procured and CAHWs will be trained in how to run their activities as a business.</p>	<p>Payam Project Management Committees have been established as part of the agro-dealership development mechanism and are leading the identification, verification and capacity assessment of potential agro-dealers, as well as making the necessary recommendations to CWW. This approach is based on lessons learnt from the previous approach of dealing directly with agro-dealers, which raised high expectations among the dealers that could not be met. CWW has conducted a capacity and needs assessment of each group to ascertain the type and quantities of inputs they require. This information should facilitate the fast-tracking of negotiations with dealers to supply the required inputs.</p> <p>Kits for Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) have been procured in Nairobi and are awaiting transportation and delivery to South Sudan pending the receipt of duty exemption from the Ministry of Finance.</p> <p>The plan is to organise the</p>

Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Achievement as of September 2014 Monitoring Visit	Achievement as of June 2015 Monitoring Visit	Achievement as of November 2015 Monitoring Visit
				CAHWs into associations and to encourage them to set up agro-veterinary outlets using the starter kits and drugs that will be provided by the Project. In order to enable the CAHWs to function effectively, CWW will train them in business and marketing skills early in the next quarter. Once they have established a strong association and become an effective functional group, CWW will facilitate their registration through the Ministry of Animal Resources and Fisheries (MARF).
<i>A2.5 Creation of a network of fruit and tree nurseries in Aweil North and Aweil West</i> A2.5.1 Selection of nursery managers and sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport Market analysis 		Nursery managers and sites have been identified in Aweil North and Aweil West: 2 sites in Wedweil and Ayat (Aweil West County) and 1 site in each of Mayom Adhal, Maper Deng Acuil, Nyin Ameth (Malual West Payam) and Malual North Payams in Aweil North County.	Capacity assessment of the identified and selected Nursery Managers will be done this quarter in order to design a course of training that is tailored to filling existing gaps and needs.
A2.5.2 Training of new nursery managers by existing nursery managers A2.5.3 Selection of sites and provision of start-up kits to nurseries A2.5.4 Linkage of nurseries to agro-input shops and Government nurseries A2.5.5 Conducting of trials at the ADLC of new species and production methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visiting trainers and researchers Supply chains for seeds, saplings and cuttings 		The identified Nursery Managers have not been trained but the training is scheduled to take place in the current quarter. Nursery sites have been identified but no nursery starters have yet been provided. Selected varieties (including Papaya and some local seeds) are being tested at the Centre in the current cropping season.	The Training Manual for Nursery Managers is being prepared and the training is scheduled for the end of this quarter. The procurement request is yet to be made pending the result of the capacity and needs assessment that will be done this quarter.
<i>A2.6 Challenging of the current status of women</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport 		Community consultation is scheduled to take place in the current quarter.	25 members of Project and IP staff were trained as ToTs in

Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Achievement as of September 2014 Monitoring Visit	Achievement as of June 2015 Monitoring Visit	Achievement as of November 2015 Monitoring Visit
<i>farmers through community consultation and support to female Lead Farmers to mentor female beneficiary farmers</i> A2.6.1 Training of staff in community consultation methodology A2.6.2 Conducting of community consultations with beneficiaries A2.6.3 Documentation of the consultations A2.6.4 Action plans A2.6.5 Follow-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff training 		The training will also involve some Lead Farmers who will go out to the community to conduct and document community consultations. The training manual is ready and preparation for training is on-going.	Community Conversation approaches and are expected to roll out the training of community conversation facilitators in the coming quarter.

Annex 5 Challenges and follow-up actions

4. Summary of follow-up actions and responsibilities

	Action to be taken	Person responsible	Deadline	Progress and action taken to address the actions as at November 2015
1	Circulate draft monitoring report.	Emmanuel Minari	26 June 2015	The EU monitoring report has been shared and the EUD is expected to share the Monitoring report for November as soon as it is finalised. However, a comprehensive feedback session by Tayo Alabi has touched on all key issues identified, including a preview of his draft field note.
2	Prioritise support to the Project team in Nyamlell through the timely procurement of Project items. Senior management in Juba should ensure that this support is sustained throughout Project implementation.	Concern Worldwide	Immediately and for the remainder of the Project	Nearly all the equipment required for use by the Nyamlell ADLC and the CAHWs has been procured, although the CAHW kits are still pending delivery to the site from Nairobi due to a delay in securing duty exemption letters from the Ministry of Finance.
3	Prioritise the mending of a fractured relationship with the State Authorities. This is crucial as both the Minister and the Director General of Agriculture expressed their dissatisfaction and unhappiness with the performance of the two EU-funded projects (SORUDEV and the Food Security Thematic Programme) at the meeting with the EU monitoring mission which was also attended by the Programme Manager and his team.	Concern Worldwide	Immediately	Generally, communication and coordination has improved between the SMAF and CWW during this period and through regular PSC and sector-level consultative meetings, CWW has established a framework for coordination, information sharing and collaboration on issues pertaining to the Project. The SMAF has already appointed 6 Focal Points (staff) to the Project who are actively participating in its implementation, including in training. In addition, joint project monitoring visits with Government staff have been conducted to Project sites in order to assess the progress and the impact of the Project in the community. Despite being obliged under this arrangement to submit regular monitoring reports, none have yet been received from the SMAF despite a number of monitoring missions having been conducted to the field.
4	Prioritise the sharing of Project documents with the State Authorities and the holding of regular meetings at the State Offices (by the Programme Manager and his team) in order to update the authorities of the plans, progress and challenges affecting Project implementation.	Concern Worldwide		CWW shared all Project (proposal) documents with all relevant stakeholders at State and County level at the start of the Project and has also updated stakeholders on progress through PSC meetings and County and Payam coordination meetings. Monthly progress reports have also been submitted to County authorities to update them on Project implementation and challenges so that they may advise accordingly.

5	Prioritise the establishment and operationalization of a State-Level Steering Committee. The committee should meet regularly to discuss overall Project performance, progress and challenges. County-level meetings involving all key stakeholders (including implementing agencies and beneficiary representatives) should also be held on a monthly basis.	Concern Worldwide	Immediately and for the remainder of the Project	The State-level Project Steering Committee and all Project Management Committees (PMCs) at County and Payam level are operational and CWW has been able to engage actively with all stakeholders at State, County and Payam level and update them on Project progress and challenges through regular (quarterly and monthly) consultation and coordination meetings.
6	Prioritise the provision of refresher training to all key staff in VSLA methodology and ensure they train all VSLA groups.	Concern Worldwide	Immediately and continuously	All Project staffs have received training in VSLA methodology and have rolled this out to Lead Farmers and VSLAs in the community in an effort to increase understanding and improve the performance of the VSLAs.
7	Prioritise the provision of refresher training in i) VSLA concepts and methodologies; ii) business skills; and iii) financial literacy to all target groups.	Concern Worldwide	Immediately and for the remainder of the Project	47 Lead Farmers have been trained as Village Facilitators or Agents for VSLAs to provide first-hand mentoring support and supervision to the existing VSLAs. During this time, CWW field staff have also provided training on the ground in VSLA methodology, including record keeping, constitution development and group dynamics. Generally, the work of the VSLAs has improved although their savings have remained very low due to the current financial and food crisis. CWW will incorporate literacy lessons into the VSLA curriculum to strengthen their skills.
8	Prioritise the refresher training of County-level staff in agronomic practices in order to increase their chances of implementing the Project efficiently and professionally. Such training could be planned on the job but also through short training courses carried out within the country (although not all staff should be sent for training at the same time).	Concern Worldwide	Immediately and for the remainder of the Project	CWW has contributed to the cost of sending 2 staff from the SMAF to undertake a 9-month training course at the Kagelu Agricultural Training Centre. 14 Government Extensionists at Payam level were trained by CWW on extension packages earlier in 2015 and further refresher trainings are now being planned.
9	Strengthen the M&E function of the Project by ensuring that data is collected and analysed regularly. The crop assessment tools developed and circulated by the EU to all SORUDEV programmes should be a starting point. All data collected and analysed should be shared with the Agricultural and Food Information System (AFIS) team at the	Concern Worldwide	Immediately and for the remainder of the Project	Crop assessment tools were used to determine the amount of land being cultivated by the farmers and will also now be used (at the end of the season) to determine how much was actually harvested. CWW and its partners continue to support AFIS by collecting market information and sharing it with the Cluster. The Project M&E Officer has developed a number of data collection tools that are being used by the Project (which has also trained its staff in their use). In addition CWW submits a monthly Food Security Cluster Report to

	SMAFCRD. The capacity of local IPs and Government actors should be built as part of this process.			the FSC based on which an IPC) report is produced. CWW also collects and shares regular market information with AFIS.
10	Facilitate and strengthen linkages between smallholder farmers and agro-dealers to enable the prepositioning of farming inputs (seeds and appropriate tools) by agro-dealers and guarantee timely access to farm inputs by farmers before the planting season. There is need to ensure better/clearer understanding of the purpose of the agro-dealership arrangement by both parties (agro-dealers and VSLAs/farmer groups) and to establish a link between them before the onset of the rainy season.	Concern Worldwide	Immediately and for the remainder of the Project	CWW is fast-tracking the issue of agro-dealership and has established PMCs at County and Payam level to oversee the development of agro-dealership between farmers and agro-dealers and to manage the community development funds resulting from the repayments that will be collected later from farmers. Discussions are already underway with potential dealers and upon completion, Memoranda of Understanding will be signed between the PMCs and agro-dealers to govern the issue of agro-dealership.
11	Strengthen and broaden the coordination and sharing of information with other implementing agencies in the State and other SORUDEV projects in order to harmonise the methodologies of extension service delivery and VSLA activities.	Concern Worldwide	Regularly	Much information is shared with IPs at FSL cluster meetings and State-level PSC meetings. Formal meetings are held with different partners depending on circumstances. CWW is a member of the FSL cluster and regularly attends FSL cluster coordination meetings (and as such has been able to share information with other members of the FSL cluster, including FAO on VSLA, the WFP on CFA , PIN on agro-dealership and Welthungerhilfe on FSTP implementation approaches and strategies).
12	Develop a Project exit and sustainability strategy jointly with Government and stakeholders in order to ensure each component of the Project is discussed and clearly understood. Most importantly, the document should clearly spell out how each component (extension services, animal traction, VSLAs and input supply, data and information management and linkage to markets and value chains) will be sustained after the Project ends.	Concern Worldwide	Within 3-6 months	This is under development. However, the SMAF has appointed some Extension Focal Points (staff) to work directly with the Project team in order to acquaint themselves with the Project approaches and provide technical and monitoring support. These arrangements are consistent with CWW's exit and sustainability strategy.

Annex 6 Work Plan: February 2015 to February 2016

Result	Outcome	Activity	Half Year						Half Year						Implementing body		
			F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J		F	
Result 1: Improved provision and access to sustainable extension services for poor, young and female farmers to improve knowledge to enhance food production and productivity.	A1.1 Project Management	1.1.7 Conduct Payam, county and state project advisory meetings														CWW, APAD,LUYDA	
	A1.2 Strengthen the network of community based extension workers	A1.2.4 Lead farmers train, establish demonstration sites															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A1.2.5 Conduct exchange visits and farmer field days															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A1.2.6 Peer monitoring of extension workers															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A1.2.7 Provide incentives to lead farmers and CAHWs															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A1.2.8 Provide support supervision to lead farmers and CAHWs															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A1.2.9 Develop posters for extension															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A1.2. 10 Mass-media promotion (radio, posters)															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A1.2.11. Employing remote mobile phone based IT support for frontline extensionists															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A1.3 Development of the Nyamlele Agriculture Demonstration and Learning Centre as a focus for extension service training, technology trials and demonstration.	A1.3.1 Establish management committee and business plan														
	A1.3.2Consturct Tukuls, install solar power, solar pump and drip irrigation, procure equipment and furniture																CWW, APAD,LUYDA
	A1.3.3 Conduct trials and demonstrations for selected staple crop varieties, new crops and vegetables																CWW, APAD,LUYDA
	A1.3.4 Conduct farmer field days/ open days for centre																CWW, APAD,LUYDA
	A1.3.5 Conduct extension workers review meetings in centre																CWW, APAD,LUYDA
	A1.4 Promotion of animal traction, including minimum tillage equipment	A1.4.1 Identification and ToT for animal traction															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A1.4.3 Animal traction adaptive research at the ADLC															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A1.4.4 Identification and training of black smiths															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
	A 1.5 Strengthen capacity of government and CBOs to support extension services	A1.5.2 Procure equipment for SMoAF, SMoARF and NGOs															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A1.5.3 Conduct training to address capacity gaps															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
	A1.6 Develop and rollout	A1.6.1 Develop frontline SMS based															CWW,

	mobile phone based remote support system for county extension workers, lead farmers and CAHWs	management tools															APAD,LUYDA
		A1.6.2 Modify livestock Guru or similar software for android OS and the south sudan context															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A1.6.3 Mobile phone based livestock epidemiology/ disease tracking software.															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A1.6.4Train government and NGO technical staff to use and manage ICT and mobile phone based tools															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A1.6.5Numeracy skills lessons for agriculture and livestock staff															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
Result 2: Improved equality for market access, access to inputs and agricultural incomes for rural poor smallholder farmers in Aweil Centre, Aweil north and Aweil west counties	A2.1 support the marketing of agricultural and livestock products	A2.1.1 Staff training in marketing															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A2.1.2Establish marketing groups& value chain addition															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A2.1.4 Conduct VCA for selected products															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A2.1.5 Form & train Marketing groups in business skills															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A2.1.6 Provide mentoring support to marketing groups															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
	A2.2 Repair and improvement of critical points in the feeder road network	A2.2.1Discussions with state ministry of works,SMOAF,WFP,to prioritise repair culverts, bridges and road sections and agreements with WFP toprovide food/cash for work for repairs															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A2.2.2 Execute repairs of roads using FFW or CFW															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
	A2.3 Create a diverse and commercially sustainable seed supply	A2.3.1 seasonal seed fairs at payam level support seed producer groups and private seed suppliers															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A2.3.2 Adaptive trials of new vegetable and crop varieties at the Agric Centre															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
	A2.4 Development of private sector Agro and Vet inputs and plough spares suppliers	A2.4.1Identify existing and potential agro-vet input and plough dealers															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A2.4.2 Trial community run agro-input shop															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A2.4.3 Provision of business startup loans for wholesale agro-vet input dealers through banks and MFIs															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A2.4.4 Training of agro-vet input dealers in business skills and agriculture.															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A2.4.5 Technical support for the registration of agro-vet input dealers															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A2.4.6 Technical support to SMOAF and SMOARF to provide quality control of inputs															CWW, APAD,LUYDA

		A2.4.7 Provision of subsidised initial stock for agro-vet retail dealers.															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
	A2.5 Create a network of fruit and tree nurseries in Aweil centre, Aweil north and Aweil west	A2.5.1 selection of nursery managers and sites															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A2.5.2 Training of new nursery managers by existing nursery managers															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A2.5.3 Select sites and provide start up kits for nurseries															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A2.5.4 Link nurseries to agro-input shops and government nurseries															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
	A2.6 Challenge the current status of women farmers through community conversations and support female lead farmers to mentor female beneficiary farmers	A2.6.1 Train staff in community conversation															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A2.6.2 Conduct community conversations with beneficiaries															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A2.6.3 Document the Conversations															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A2.6.4 Develop and implement action plans															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
		A2.6.5 Follow up implementation of action plans															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
3 Monitoring and Evaluation	3.1 Harvest yield analysis (crop cuts)	Crop cuts yield assessment															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
	3.3 HEA annual data collection	Rapid HEA annual data collection															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
	3.4 Midterm review																CWW, APAD,LUYDA
	3.5 Livestock longitudinal surveys(annual)	Annual livestock morbidity and mortality using heard profile tool															CWW, APAD,LUYDA
	3.6 Final project Evaluation																CWW, APAD,LUYDA