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

Draft Monitoring Report: NRC

**Period covered:
09 to 15 November 2015**

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and Omotayo Alabi
on behalf of

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



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KEY DATA

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

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Abbreviations and acronyms

CAD	County Agricultural Department
CAHW	Community Animal Health Worker
CORP	Community-Owned Resource Person
EU	European Union
EUR	Euro
FFS	Farmer Field School
LCAD	Luk Luk community agency for development
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MTE	Mid-Term Evaluation
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
OFA	Ox-plough farming agency
(S)MAFCRD	(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
ZEAT-BEAD	Zonal Effort for Agricultural Transformation – Bahr-el-Ghazal Agricultural Development

Project data

General Data

Contract beneficiary	Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)
Project Title	“Increased agricultural production and income for small holder farmers affected by displacement in Warrap State of South Sudan”
Project ref. CRIS	FED/2014/333-511
Date of visit	09 to 15 November 2015
Location	Four counties in Warrap State: Gogrial East, Gogrial West, Tonj South and Twic
Monitoring Officer	Angus Graham and Tayo Alabi
Start date	01 May 2014
End date	31 January 2017

Financial data

Total EC contribution	€2,000,000 (equivalent to 90% of €2,222,222)
Total spent by project to date (EUR)	€758,032
Balance of funds released to date	€1,137,872
Anticipated date of next request / release of funds	August 2015
Anticipated amount of next request / release of funds	€662,128

1 Summary of Field Visits

• Introduction

Warrap State covers a total area of 31,027 KM² with an estimated population of ca 1million peopl (5th Sudan housing and population census, 2008. Some 50 % of the population is below the age of 18 years. The main ethnic groups in the State are the Dinka (Jieng), Luo (Jur Chol & Jur Manager) and Bongo. Much of the rural sector activity is focused on low-input low-output subsistence agriculture. The sector in the state lacks a critical mass of farmer and rural producer associations, appreciable irrigation development; an effiicent road network; and property rights and access to land guarantees. The poor wealth group in the state cultivates 0.5–1 feddans, (approx. 0.2 to 0.4 ha), the middle wealth group cultivates 2-3 feddans (0.8-1.2 ha), and the wealthiest cultivate 4-10 feddans (approx.1.6-4ha). Net cereal production in Warrap state is about 30 % less than the amount consumed.

The project area has two key seasons related to rainfall, a dry season (November to May) and the wet season (June to October). The hunger season occurs from June to October. Rainfall patterns influence key activities including trade (market access) and crop production - flooding or impassable roads. Livestock (cow) milk is available between June and October (at a time when livestock is near human settlements). The dry season results in increased livestock stress and migration to wetlands (*Toic*). Cereal markets prices and livestock sales rise during the dry season. Land preparation begins in April and May, followed by planting (sorghum, maize in early June, groundnuts in late June or early July). Weeding occurs once between July and September. Sorghum, maize and millet are intercropped while groundnuts and sesame planted as standalone. Groundnuts, sesame and vegetables (okra) are harvested July to August. Sorghum and maize harvesting occurs in October.

The state is administered from Kuajok. It is divided into six counties, 42 payams, and 129 bomas. The SMAF/CRD extension staff face mobility problems, skills levels of extension workers are a mix of both trained and untrained government agents (approx.17 per country in 2014), with the majority having gone through limited short term NGO led training. Training materials need to be adapted to the current skills levels of the extension country team. Limited process leadership and facilitation skills also challenge to the delivery of important messages to adult men and women. The extension system is often viewed as being led by NGOs, which is not sustainable.

• NRC Sector Programme

NRC has been working in South Sudan since 2006. It established is field office in Alek, Warrap state in in 2011. NRC's conducts an integrated programming approach, with food security, counselling and legal assistance (ICLA), shelter, water and sanitation, and education activities. Partners and on-going projects in addition to the EU funded SORUDEV project include:

- NRC/FAO/SDC (Swiss Development Cooperation) - Voucher for vegetable fresh product procurement by IDPs
- NRC/GIZ/DFID – Urban food security livelihoods and markets with three components: i) urban agriculture, ii) vocational skills, iii) information, counselling and legal assistance (protection)
- NRC/UNOPS/EU – Community mobilisation, sensitization and training, to create awareness of feeder roads operations and preparation for community based management of their maintenance and conflict resolution where roads pass through lands

- NRC/SIDA – Training of farmer groups in VSLA and on crop production. Unconditional cash grants to 75 vulnerable groups and training of 50 people on business management with some cash to start their business.

The EU funded SORUDEV project seeks to increase food security, reduce vulnerability and enhance livelihoods for rural households in South Sudan with a priority focus being on groups affected by displacement (IDPs, returnees and host communities). It aims to increase and diversify the agricultural production and income for smallholder farmers in Warrap State. This objective addresses many interrelated problems that underpin low agricultural production that leads to persistent household food and income shortages. NRC Local Partners under the EU funded SORUDEV project with NRC include:

- LCAD / SORUDEV/ EU is implementing all project activities in Tonj South, in three payams in Gogrial east and 5 Payams in Gogrial West.
- OFA/SORUDEV/EU has implemented the training of farmers in the use of ox-ploughs (520 farmers i.e. 260 teams) on behalf of NRC under the SORUDEV action.

OFA are required to account for the use of an advanced first payment of funds, however as this has not been forthcoming the agreement between NRC and OFA has been suspended pending the outcome of an investigation that is underway. NRC in Juba is in the process of drafting an official communication to EU in this regard. The issue was discussed with EUD to Juba on the occasion of a meeting to introduce the new project Manager, Mr Eddington Chinyoka (who arrived on duty in Alek, Gogrial West County, Warrap State on 09 November 2015).

- **Visit to Mayom Farmer VSLA Group in Alek North**

A farming group of 25 people from different families, mostly who do not speak English. The meeting took the occasion to introduce the new NRC programme manager and the EUD-TA monitoring team, explaining that any information gained from the meeting would be used to strengthen the project.

Very few people in the community do not own cattle. Among the group, cattle ownership ranges from 2 to 10 per family. Half of the group is involved in vegetable production (okra, onion, tomato, eggplant, kale, lady finger, parslane and jews mallow). The seeds for these crops were sourced from an NCA (Norwegian Church Aid) relief package to IDPs. Fruit trees common in the homesteads of group members include: lemon, mango, guava, pawpaw, shear (Lullu) and neem.

The beneficiary group explained it was very happy with the support they received from NRC under the SORUDEV programme. This follows previous support from the NRC in the form of grants provided under a CIDA funded project.

Under the SORUDEV programme NRC has helped them with the establishment of a saving group which charges 20 % interest on all loans made within the group. They like this approach because any interest paid on loans stays in the community. NRC provided the group with a lock box (Sandouk) and training on operation of a savings and loans association.

The group explained that the assistance provides has been very useful for starting small businesses e.g. tea shops, which generate interest, and as a source of cash in times of emergency such as when a child is sick, when the family is hungry, or when school fees are due to be paid. Borrowing also takes place within the group to conduct trade related transactions, such as buying food at harvest time in locations where prices are relatively low and selling it in urban centres where the price is higher. Loans are also used to pay for

labour at critical phases of cultivation, and advance payments for the building of houses (Tokuls).

Prior to the availability of this mechanism, sources of cash were limited to sales of cultivated crops, domestic livestock and captured fish, and harvesting of grass (thatch). Prior to the assistance provided by NRC there was no way of borrowing money, in the recent past. The group has no knowledge of farmers groups or cooperatives but is aware that some larger traders borrow from the government.

When asked how the VSLA would use savings to expand planting considering that Warrap State is a food deficit area and that by importing food funds effectively leave the community, they explained that it is likely that savings will be used to purchase ox-ploughs, but that so far savings have not been used to procure agricultural inputs. Savings will continue to such a time as they will be able to afford ox-ploughs. By March 2016 they expect to be able to buy an ox plough individually or in groups of two persons.

The group is keenly interested to receive loans through the project in order to generate income through trade in agriculture inputs and products, and pay back the principle loan. They requested a loan of 35,000 SSP for this purpose. They informed that they would use such a fund to buy groundnuts from Aweil and Sorghum from Anet and sell both in Alek. In this dry season they would also use the fund to buy fish from the river and process and sell them on at a profit.

A key concern raised by the group was the need for seeds and tools to be available in the market at fair prices. The group has members with business experience who could arrange this if they could be supported in such an activity. They highlighted that a key success of the NRC VSLA activity is that it has brought the members together and created trust among them and without generating conflict.

The group explained while there is a groundnut paste machine in the county, they are keen to obtain a groundnut sheller. At present groundnuts are shelled with a stick. They are also very interested to pursue possibilities for the production of baby food. They expressed a very keen interest in support to develop rice farming in the area. Apparently there is a very large high potential rice area in the vicinity to which the community has access. They would like to start rice production in the current savings group arrangement.

The pointed out the price of ox ploughs has risen from 900 SSP at the beginning of the year to more than 1800 SSP due to deterioration in the rate of exchange of the national currency. The rising exchange rate is holding back investment in the sector.

The only vegetable seed commonly available on the local market is okra. Both ladyfinger (Kudra) and okra seeds are produced locally in the group. Locally available sorghum seeds are judged by the size and form of the panicle head. The quality of groundnut seed is judged by feeling and tasting the seed. Varieties that grow well during the dry season, are drought resistant, and have a short ripening time are preferred.

- **Meeting with LCAD**

Implementing NRC SORUDEV projects in three counties. Nine programme staff. LCAD overall programme activities include providing training in farming techniques and VSLA, establishment of nurseries and production of fruit tree seedlings (FAO project), community based environmental protection, training of community based facilitators who then work with extension agents and assist in their interaction with farmers.

Crops covered in FFS include Sorghum, Sim Sim, groundnuts and assorted vegetables. Vegetable production is only conducted in certain periods, constrained by dry spells or floods. LCAD is also involved in seed multiplication of groundnut, maize, cowpea, sim sim and sorghum (long season) using foundation seed kits provided by FAO. LCAD is not involved in providing training on the use of ox ploughs. LCAD identified groundnut / simsim processing (oil extraction) as a priority value addition demonstration activity needed in the region which is currently facing a drought year but in normal times is a large producer of groundnuts.

Challenged at the beginning to sensitise communities on the new development agenda following the Wau meeting of stakeholders where it was decided to cease and desist from the distribution of free agricultural inputs e.g. seeds and tools. They find that around market centres NGOs continue to distribute free inputs, which makes their work difficult. The situation is better in more rural county settings. Inflation is causing logistics problems related to the rapidly rising price in local markets of fuel for motorbikes. A 1.5 litre bottle currently costs 160 SSP.

Beneficiaries are happy with the LCAD approach to farmer field schools (crops and livestock) that emphasises the growing of healthy crops with minimum environmental damage. Any ecosystem conservation approach is advocated. LCAD emphasises that trees are important and ensures that not all trees are removed during land clearing in a “cut one, and plant 5 elsewhere” principle so as to prevent desertification. It also advocates avoiding unnecessary burning of undergrowth.

All VSLA groups in Tonj South are reported to be successful, while only 70 % of those in Gogrial East and Gogrial West are good. Poorly performing groups are those in areas where free inputs distribution is still taking place in the vicinity and in some cases where the risk of lending is considered to be too high. Mostly, those that are successful are involved in small business. Many groups have saved but so far the money has not been used. Either they have not bought ploughs because they were not initially made available in time for the season.

LCAD was involved in linking traders to farmers, however there were a number of complications in assuring traders with guarantees. LCAD undertook the task of registering farmers who wanted to procure ploughs. However they wanted to know the price of the ploughs in advance of registration. Govt. and NGO subsidised ploughs cost SSP 400 in the past. They are currently available at between SSP 1500 and SSP 1800. LCAD considers increased uptake of ox-ploughs as critical to any strategy to increase agricultural production in view of a general lack of capacity and a shortage of ploughs in particular.

The team explained to the CBO the line of credit concept to the LCAD and enquired on what mechanism could work in the region to increase the local availability of needed agricultural inputs at a quality and price that would satisfy farmers who need them. LCAD informed that a good option would be to use revolving funds involving both CBOs and community banks where they exist. LCAD pointed out that profit taking is not within the mandate of some CBOs. LCAD will provide a list of CBO and their areas of proficiency and coverage.

The role of CBOs is vital to reduce losses, because they are most directly in contact with the people making up the communities they serve. Any mechanism that will be developed will require CBOs to serve as intermediaries between FAO (or banks) and VSLAs. LCAD pointed out that both loans and matching grants could work, but that the use of matching grants faces risks of misdirection to uses other than those intended by the project. Both would need to take place together with training of farmers and conditional on an extensive process of monitoring of the use of the funds.

In order to increase production savings group need a rapid injection of loan capital. LCAD sees lending by CBOs to VSLAs as vital to the role of linking traders to farmer VSLAs. LCAD also envisages a role of CBOs to lend to community banks and to traders. LCAD will provide a list of community banks active in the region. They noted that the community bank supported by Concern is appreciated and working well.

- **Visit to LCAD field group in Kuac North**

Poor group of mostly women. Group leader a man. Group is happy to receive visitors so Govt. / NGOs can see for themselves the real needs facing farmer groups. Achievements of LCAD with this farmer group include the allocation of land to the farmer group and training provided to the farmer group, which in turn invested inputs into the collective effort but have experienced a number of setbacks including the current dry spell and a breakdown in irrigated water supply.

They have been very busy in fetching water to ensure a crop, which was harvested recently (okra, tomato, eggplant, onion, beans and pumpkin; seed sources: home saved seed, seed bought in market through group savings, and FAO provided seed last July). The group is planning to dig a well so that they can produce through the dry season.

In their homesteads the group members produce Sorghum, Simsim, maize, groundnut, okra and pumpkin on an average of 5 feddans. They are willing to expand their area under production if they can get to use ox ploughs and when the current particularly dry spell breaks. Only a few of the members do not have cattle.

The group intends to use VSLA to procure inputs and in order to cover times when there are food shortages. Inputs that they are facing difficulty in accessing include watering cans (currently they are using 50 litre plastic containers which are too heavy for use by women), Parslane, Kudura, sweet potato, cassava, yams, and seed potato.

Other sources of income include sales of milk from cattle and goats, charcoal, grass, and groundnuts. They are interested in increasing their incomes also from fish buying and processing kits, and financing for opening restaurants and tea rooms along the Wau-Kuajok road. The women in the group would like to receive a SSP 10,000 loan in order to fund the above activities and also for the procurement of ox ploughs. The men in the group think it can afford a SSP 20,000 loan, principally for trading of fish caught in swamplands during the dry season. Restaurants are identified as a priority to cover needs over the dry season and earn income in preparation for land clearing and procurement of inputs before the next season. Some members cited a need of cement for the group well, while others mentioned they would buy cattle for their children and use the dung in the gardens.

- **Visit to LCAD field group at Waralel**

A farming group of 25 people (named Diama), 15 women and 10 men, which produce sorghum, groundnuts and vegetables. Men produce on 10 to 20 feddan and women produce on 3 to 5 feddan each. They use oxploughs on the 20 feddan areas. Production of sweet potato failed due to insect damage. A few Cassava trees are kept as a source of cassava cuttings.

The group wishes to expand production, which would require support to development of an irrigation system. Currently they are using a treadle pump (six were provided by farm Africa in 2009 but now only one works) and plastic containers to move water (perhaps a water-barrow would be a good introduction). They informed that they need good quality seed. Tomato and eggplant seeds are very difficult to find / non-existent in local markets. Saving of

vegetable seeds has not been successful, pointing to a need for open pollinated (non-hybrid) seed. The group is also interested in receiving support with transporting product to market.

- **Visit to LCAD field group in Panthoy**

Vegetable production group (Cientok = one hand, Motok=one heart) leaders named Adhien Akot Anom (woman group leader) and Ayang Akec Ayany. The group secretary keeps record of production. This group has grown to the extent that it has now split into three groups of 25 members each due to land constraints. A further 10 to 20 feddans of land per group is required by the groups.

Group was trained in 2014 on VSLA and microfinance, environmental conservation, and establishment of a farmer field school (FFS). However they have not received training in production or business planning. The groups received a lock box and proceeded to save SSP 1,250 over five months (10 SSP per member per month). Using the money saved the group dug a well, bought seed, fenced the farmed area, and provided some loans to members. Currently the box is nearly empty.

The group highly appreciates the training received and the income they are generating through sales of the vegetable crops produced, which have improved the wellbeing of their households. Sales of the vegetable crops are either directly to markets or via traders (by wheelbarrows, bicycles or motorbikes) Challenges they face include a lack of irrigation technology (pumps and watering cans) and insect damage (tomato, rugula and watermelon).

The group members recommended that EU support Govt. and CBOs to develop a broad based water use development plan. They are very keen to access solar powered pumps, water barrows, and chain link fencing that is not available in the market. The group is also interested in accessing a broad range of fruit trees to produce for market (e.g. papaya).

Vegetables are produced in raised or mounded soil beds during the wet season and lowered or hollowed out beds during the dry season. Plot sizes per group member are quite small (5 to 10 sq meters). Okra, Parslane and Kudura are the best wet-season crops. Preferred crops are short duration (3 to 4 weeks) leafy vegetables (Rigela = Parslane, Kudura, Girgir=spinach, amuku bek, leafy bean, amaranthus).

The most profitable vegetables are Parslane, Kudura, Amaranthus and Okra. Other crops produced by the group of mostly women include, okra, eggplant, tomato, onions, sweet potato, pumpkin, watermelon and cassava. Cost of seeds per seedbed estimated at 10 SSP per plot (seeds are mainly procured from Wau, seed prices considered very high). They are also very interested to produce Garlic, Kale / Cabbage and Carrots but have not been able to access seeds for these types of vegetables.

The groups are interested to receive loan capital from LCAD in order to generate expanded activities. Individual group members produce crops on five feddans or more. The groups would like to receive a loan of SSP 10,000. Other activities in which they are interested include restaurants and petty trade.

Some progressive women farmers (e.g. Asunta Adut Manut) who were trained in the group are now farming individually. They requested avenues to also receive continued support from Govt. NGOs and CBOs and their partners. There is a potential synergy with the DFID-GIZ urban agriculture project.

- **Visit SMAFCRD, SMARF and LCAD in Kuajok**

On Wednesday 11 November 2015 the monitoring team comprised of EUD-TA, NRC, WVI met with Hon. James Gabriel Khamis, State Agriculture Minister (Warrap), Peter Madut, State focal point (FP) to the EU SORUDEV Programme, Mardin Adut SDG (Stte Director

General) Agriculture, Arkangel Abel Amet LCAD Programme Manager. The meeting took the opportunity to introduce the new NRC Programme Manager, Eddington Chinyoka.

NRC (Taban Kaps Robert) informed the meeting that NRC, in partnership with two CBOs (Community based organisations (CBOs) named LCAD and OFA together with the State Ministry of Agriculture is implementing an EU funded SORUDEV project in 4 counties in Warrap State, Gogrial East (GE), Gogrial West (GW), Twic and Tong South. LCAD is covering the counties of Tonj South and 4 Payams in GW and 3 Payams in GE.

The NRC project has four main areas of support: i.) Strengthening county level extension systems, including staff capacity development, mobility and office equipment; ii) Building farmer group capacity through training and establishing VSLA, iii) Promotion of animal traction, and iv) Linking farmers to markets (including market information) and supplies of agricultural inputs. It is being implemented in close coordination and collaboration with other EU funded projects with World Vision (WVI) and VSF-G.

World Vision (Berhanu Wolde) informed the meeting that WVI is implementing an FSTP project targeting vulnerable groups in partnership with the CBO THESO (nutrition component) in close collaboration with VSF-G that is targeting both vulnerable groups and accomplished farmers. WVI FSTP project operations cover 4 counties in Twic, and together with VSF-G also GW and GE counties.

WVI does not have a budget line for direct support to the State Agriculture Ministry but is providing support in the following main areas: Master training: in i) FFS and FMNR (farmer management of natural resources), ii.) Development of the State Forestry Policy, and iii) Training of farmer groups together with the State Agriculture Ministry.

Peter Madut, SORUDEV FP (focal point), informed the meeting that collaboration between NRC and WVI and the State Ministry has been good, with joint selection of projects sites and cooperation in planning and steering committee meetings. He pointed out that the Ministry is pleased to have received the projects contributions to developing its management functional capacities, particularly the support to 9 month training of selected county level staff, and office development and running costs. He pointed out that WVI invests well in its operational infrastructure and presence which is a good foundation.

The practical approach of NRC to working with country level staff and CBOs is appreciated and relationships with the Ministry are very good. He reiterated that market and fuel prices and general scarcity are affecting implementation and regular operational monitoring activities. He explained that the EU funded SORUDEV programme is being implemented by various partners in four States, and extended the appreciation of NRC for making provisions for and facilitating Warrap State Ministry senior technical staff participation in the SORUDEV quarterly review meetings. He flagged the following issues:

- NRC provision of solar-power systems and office equipment to county level offices has not been completed yet (2 counties). NRC is working on this.
- The under-performance of the CBO OFA has created a gap in the provision of quality ox-plough training that has become a burden to the project.

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

- Food security cluster meetings that have in the past been held on a monthly basis should be continued, and regular booklet listing / highlighting progress, main decisions, surveys, studies, lessons etc should be considered in future planning.
- There is a need to identify alternative livestock medicine sources for the country, and to ensure effective supply linkages to community based outlets and workers.

- The livelihood of the people of Warrap State is predominantly agro-pastoral in nature. Cattle are used to procure sorghum but the extent of their utility is often overlooked: i.) Source of food security, ii.) Business (traded), iii.) Safety net to pay for education and health (e.g. in Uganda) amongst others.
- Increasing the use of protective attire (PPE) by farmer and support services workers needs attention. Development of cold chains (solar powered), control of zoonotic livestock diseases, value addition of hides and skins, and generating awareness on how to manage ownership of cattle need attention.
- Greater awareness is needed on appropriate management of animal traction working livestock. They require special treatment and care that is different to that of other free-range stock.
- Warrap State is well endowed with river and swamp resources that are rich in fish resources that in the past have been essential to feeding both Warrap and WBEG States and a source of earnings from sales in neighbouring countries as far-a-field as Uganda.
- There is a widespread shortage of capture fishing equipment in Warrap State, development of input and product value chains for this resource should be prioritised. Scaling up of fishpond farming piloted by World Vision is also a priority.
- Further attention to the development of research centres is needed. Currently there is no capacity for testing seeds (purity, certification etc) or soil, conducting of field trials.

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

- Partners have done some training of extension staff but their impact is not being reflected in staff performance reports. There is a need for collaborating partners to raise the level of staff training so that county staff are well equipped, report on time and the knowledge, skills and technology transferred to farmers in useful.
- Inflation that is affecting the budgets of partners needs to be taken into consideration and necessary mitigation measures actively pursued.
- NGOs are doing well, however further attention is needed to the timeliness of deliverables (including making inputs available and accessible), especially fuel supplies.
- Generally there is an outstanding need for the development of effective experimental and model / demonstration farms. This is an aspect that requires urgent attention, and a special pool fund should be created for this purpose. More support is expected from partners in capacity development, more and regular refresher courses should be included in projects in this regard.
- Under the current circumstances, numerous retail activities are closing down in local markets. Products are increasingly scarce and what is available is become less available to people wishing to procure them. A more proactive approach ensuring market functionality and utility is urgently needed.
- Communication and coordination by Ministry services is proving to be a major challenge to rural development programme efficiency due to a lack of resources to contract an Internet provider. Equipment is available, what is missing is USD 4000 to open the connectivity / bandwidth.

- **Visit with County Agriculture Department (CAD) Staff in Gogrial**

On Wednesday 11 November 2015 the monitoring team met with staff from the State and Country level Relief and Rehabilitation Committees (RRC) and CAD in GE and GW. Persons met include Martin Mnugang Angang, County Agricultural Inspector for GE County, Samuel Maker Agod, County Agricultural Inspector for GW, Simon Mel Ton, RRC Coordinator for GE County, and Simon Akot Kuot, Warrap State RRC Coordinator.

- SORUDEV partners are working closely with CAD staff, joint fieldwork and monthly reporting is taking place. NRC is still planning to conduct training of groups of farmers. County level staff is critical to reaching people in their communities. A crisis that arose early on in the project is that ploughs to have been made available did not reach the countries of in GE and GW.
- More support to staff training is needed, ideally amending and extending the SORUDEV projects to 5 years in order to cover field gaps. There is a particular need for support to the production of vegetable seed. More training is needed on FFS. Locations have been identified and prepared. Regular training of extension staff is needed in order to prepare them to train FFS facilitators.
- Extension in the region should be focused on FFS. Communities need time to adapt to learning in FFS. In past projects less than half of the planned FFS were achieved due to insufficient resources. The resource needs of a cascaded training and extension model should not be underestimated and thorough broad-based-planning should take place before committing to such projects. FFS are a new methodology and county staff need training in many areas to run FFS.
- The formation of Farmer Field Associations (FFA) is not something new to the region. The CAD is in a third year of formation of FFAs. There is a significant unmet demand for training of lead farmers, and community based organisations need attention to build their skills in FFA. When these components are not adequately incorporated into projects within a scope of FFA/FFS development, NGOs tend to fail to be effective. Communities also need training on feeder road maintenance.
- There are insufficient provisions to cover the running costs of country staff. CAD staff still lack sufficient mobility capabilities, insufficient resources to cover motor vehicles and general extension operations costs, which is impeding their ability to provide technical and supervisory support. Lack of CAD Internet resources is constraining effective communication with partners.
- This year FFA failure has mostly been caused by a lack of rain. The region is an agro-pastoralist area that expects rains or flood lands. This year neither has occurred. The principles of projects aiming to select target beneficiaries based on the criteria that they produce more than 2 feddans are not being realised. In reality this year most farms are limited to homesteads of less than one feddan. County coordinators were not part of the Wau resolution, there is need to build supply chains.
- Before selection of CBOs takes place, a process of critical review and verification of candidates needs to take place for all projects. This should involve County Government staff and community leaders. CBOs must be recognised and contracted together with local authorities. They must have systems in place, be known on the ground, have a local base and local representation, and must have adequate capability and capacity to undertake any work assigned to them. They should not be an organisation in name only run by two or three people.
- RCC is the humanitarian wing of the Government. The EU funded projects are valuable and are making significant contributions. These are the people who are working on a daily basis. RCC can facilitate between NGOs and communities and also higher levels of government. RCC encourages EU to continue to provide both material support and capacity building. Count staff moves with partners to where people are is important. They need refresher-training courses as well as longer term training. Government needs particular support at local levels (e.g. laptops).

- **Visit to farmer groups in Wunrok, Twic County**

Lokau Group is situated near the bridge crossing the river into Wunrok. It used to have 75 members, which have now divided into here groups of 25 persons each. The male group leader is Mam Majok and the female group leader is Aluel Ring. Some three to five feddans in area of sorghum were recently harvested. Soils are fairly heavy. The group has

established some small seedbeds of tomato, okra (and lady finger). It has established a VSLA, which used the group savings to fence the group farming area, to procure seeds, and loans within the group, which they make at an interest rate of 30 %.

The group received training from NRC on farming practices and has received training in the use of ox ploughs from the NRC partner CBO called OFA. Only two members of the group were selected for the ox plough training. The training was not satisfactory, and the two group members who received the training are now farming in the highlands somewhere. The group did not have sufficient funds to procure an ox-plough at the time of training but intend to buy one should an occasion arise. At present the price of ox ploughs is considered very expensive, the hope to buy an ox-plough next year.

Their main challenge at present is watering their crops, which they are doing by hand carrying water in plastic containers. In the past flooding of the river was the main means of watering the crops. The group is very eager to obtain water barrows and pumps. Only the long type of okra seed is available in the local market, seeds of the short variety of okra and tomato are procured from Kuajok or Wau. They have also planted Kudura, Rigila and eggplant, and sweet peppers. The group needs assistance with accessing rakes, hoes and spades to increase participation in land cultivation.

- **Visit to County Authorities in Turalei, Twic County**

On Monday 61 November 2015 the monitoring team met with staff from the Country level Relief and Rehabilitation Committees (RRC) and CAD in Turalei. Persons met include:

Yor Abraham Nyieol, RRC Coordinator, (Tel:0911551192; 0922093118; yorabraham@yahoo.com); Mangong Deng Ngor, DP Agriculture (0915676754), William Awudo Atem, DP Forestry (0927722111), James Mangola, RRC IT (0915676776, 09221595779).

- Twic county is safe in a time of insecurity in 2 neighbouring areas: Abiye and Unity State, which affect the county. The needs of numerous IDPs from these two States, Returnees in two camps, and their Host Communities make the County difficult to manage. The county is not easily accessible from Juba by Road. It is located in the north of the country. The border to the north of the County is blocked, and the Road from Juba is insecure. As a result prices of all items in the county are very high.
- Govt. services currently do not have sufficient resources to meet the emerging needs, and NRC and World Vision are importantly filling gaps and initiating or continuing real development services and processes. The role of the RRC is to serve as a bridge between NGOs and line Ministries. NGOs working in the county working with EU support are highly appreciated. RRC is very interested to receive from all NGOs a monthly update on progress and challenges and gaps, and to assist with solving any problems on the ground through sending people to mediate with communities where necessary. CAD also wants to monitor and consult closely with beneficiaries. CAD focal points for EU funded activities need to be identified and should work closely together with NGOs.
- Land in the area is good and water resources are abundant. A challenge is to change behaviours of communities in the area and get them back to work. Durable results and assets that are built together with the community and remain for their benefit are highly valued.
- It is important to increase coverage of all communities left behind. The project should continue and be scaled-up. The EU projects do not cover all the Payams, and in those covered less than 10 % of the Boumas are covered. Consequently the majority of the people in need are not being reached.
- Demonstration farms are very important. The County has allocated land amounting to 60 Feddans for the purpose of initiating a demonstration farm. This should include a

seedling nursery and also produce trees for transplanting. A mechanism to reward community members raising trees should be put in place. There is a large potential in the country for fruit production, including indigenous trees.

- Production of fruit trees for mothers and children is a priority, and activities / projects for schools for planting of fruit trees is important. The idea of food security in the county needs to extend beyond cereals, and the use of trees and vegetable gardens needs to be taken up together with activities for nutrition education in schools. Knowledge in this regard from neighbouring countries would be highly regarded. It is important to have nutrition included under the umbrella of food security. For this reason it is important to support and build local capacity in the country.
- CAD staff members have received two-year training in seedling production, there is need to support them in establishing a fruit tree nursery together with the Govt. NGOs should seek to produce trees locally rather than transporting them over long distances from other counties.
- Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration activities are very simple. This activity needs to be expanded because there is a considerable threat of semi-desertification in the area. Farmers are benefitting from forest areas but are also destroying these areas. A major issue is lack of awareness and knowledge.
- NRC has supported the secondment of one staff member for training in Yei. This is highly recommended and should be scaled-up as many county staff lack appropriate skills in the sector in which they have been recruited.
- The Government is very interested for the EU to remain active in the county, and for a continued NGO presence. The work of WV and NRC in the County is highly appreciated and should continue for as long as possible. Two relevant county departments are very short of assets, they are in urgent need of two motorbikes and operational budget to work together with NGOs. This is crucial for working with communities, a task that Govt. staff can in many cases do better than NGOs.
- NRC is active in 5 Payams in Twic County, working with farmer groups and VSLA. They are also making efforts towards linking farmers with traders for the purchase of agriculture inputs. Through the CBO OFA NRC has conducted training of 45 farmers on ox plough use, however this was not conducted in line with NRC implementation plans which was unfortunate. NRC has also conducted some training of county extension staff, provided some support for county office rehabilitation, and has supported county staff mobility at the Payam level through the provision of bicycles.
- The RRC do not want projects to come to an end without all foreseen activities having been completed. Joint visits to the field with RRC, joint monitoring and continued close coordination will be essential in this regard.

2 Key findings/Notes on project development

Overall level of progress on implementation

Some activities foreseen in the work plan of the previous quarter are yet completed.

In collaboration with the CBO LCAD and Government extension workers, NRC has been conducting regular field visits to farmer groups. NRC has some 50 farmer groups in each of 4 counties in Warrap State. Ten Farmer field schools have been established, some were engaged in vegetables production steps, and others in how to expand the area under cultivation (main challenge). Farmer leadership creation (e.g. union) has not yet taken place and will be initiated next year.

Over the last six months NRC has continued to support the training of 4 CAD extension workers who are in the final phase of completing a 9-month certificate in agribusiness at Yei CTC. Two were seconded on leave from their studies with CTC as field attachments to VSF-

G and two to World Vision. Their training is completed and graduation will take place on 4 December 2015.

Environmental awareness campaigns were conducted at payam level (26 payams), attended by 180 farmers in each. Based on this farmers realised their own actions such as random cutting of trees and poor farming practices can lead to soil degradation and increase their exposure to risks from effects of climate change.

Training on post-harvest management was conducted targeting women group leaders. The focus was on produce drying and storage (sorghum, groundnuts), creating awareness of risks of storing produce before produce is dried, proper clean storage of produce and how to avoid pests during storage through use of neem leaves that have proved effective.

Groups will raise tree seedlings as part of the irrigation demonstration plot activities scheduled for next year. Farmer field days have also not been conducted. Training of smallholder farmers in small business management skills has not yet been done, nor has the set-up of market information systems. NRC has been waiting for farmer training information from FAO. This has now been received and this activity will commence.

NRC has also held meetings with county inspectors – for monitoring of assets (motorcycles) and staff transferred to county level. Meetings were held with value chain actors in Kuajok in July on how they can support farmers with provision of inputs. A main concern is SSP price of USD.

On the recommendations of the previous TA Monitoring Report

- Concerning the collection of data, it is apparent that there is insufficient capacity for this among the existing project team. It is recommended that a project position be created and filled by a data management specialist / M&E Officer.
- Fuel has become a big problem since most fuel stations in Wau and Kuajok have run dry as a result of dollar scarcity. The NRC Alek field office fuel tank is occasionally empty. Supply of petrol for use by motorcycles is a more pressing problem than requires a solution.
- The Project implementation agreement with OFA has been suspended with support from EU. An urgently needed alternative arrangement for the next season is in place.
- An exit and sustainability strategy has not been drafted. This task will be undertaken by the new project manager (PM).
- To support government extension personnel, procurement of six new motorbikes was initiated from reallocated project funds. A purchase requisition was raised (3 Hondas and 3 Yamahas) however the quotation prices were higher than forecast which has stalled the process pending further discussions with Government partners.
- Procurement of solar equipment necessary to run computers and printers in two counties offices (Gogrial West and Gogrial East) was not possible due to cost inflation and under budgeting. Solar equipment procured for OFA will be relocated to these County offices if successfully recovered from OFA considering the termination of the NRC contract with OFA. High inflation rate still frustrates procurement of other necessary accessories, and traders in some cases are supplying fake accessories.

Main strengths

- The Relationship of NRC with Government at all levels is good. Government at State level is providing excellent support to the project – following up on activities and attending meetings including the QRM. They are also well briefed and in a position to present the project and its activities.
- NRC has a good functional base in Alek.

- CBOs are essential to the coverage of the project. LCAD is working effectively in its assigned role and tasks.
- Farmer groups have been formed and group activities have been initiated.
- The uptake of VSLAs has by and large been very successful.

Main weaknesses

- Geographical spread of the project, i.e. split access to areas either side of Wau.
- Changes made to the project consequent to the harmonisation workshop that resulted in the Wau resolution have resulted in the project being somewhat overly ambitious under the circumstances. Additional activities introduced such as VSLA formation and farmer field schools are proving to be a very intensive and more demanding on the project team than anticipated in the original project design.
- To some extent the selection of beneficiaries, targeting those able to cultivate 5 fedans is proving very challenging. In reality farmers who give every indication that they can and do cultivate 5 feddans are cultivating much smaller areas if at all, despite seasonal challenges. This problem arises as farmers tend say anything to be included as beneficiaries.

Challenges identified during the TA mission in October 2015

- Procurement of solar irrigation equipment is forecast for the next season. Difficulty in accessing suppliers in Juba who are willing to install appropriate equipment. NRC is thinking along the lines of external procurement. Process is at initial stages.
- For the irrigation component the project anticipated 1 irrigation demonstration site in each of four counties. The demonstration area should be 40 feddans, a problem arising is to get 40 feddans as a whole block. There was a discussion with the Ministry, which had already allocated sites and areas along Wau Rd for Gogrial West – and they have not reverted regarding sites in the other counties. Now there is a new State Minister for Agriculture and this consultation process needs to be followed up again.
- Linking farmers and traders to supplies of agricultural implements (ox ploughs and weeders) and hand tools is still very problematic in view of the current rate of currency exchange and inflation. At current prices and considering the drought situation it is anticipated that there will be very low effective demand for these items.
- CAD extension workers sent to Yei for training finishing in December (graduation 4 December) to provide extension support might no longer be motivated to continue to work in government service and will look for alternative employment with NGOs.
- Extension workers assigned to NRC for monitoring and directing implementation of activities are not making their best efforts even though motorcycles have been provided by the project. A case in point is one motorcycle allocated for support in Gogrial East has remained in Kuajok and the staff assigned the vehicle has not yet moved from Kwajok (trained in FFS) and view the vehicle as their private property.
- The project needs to address multiple issues however the current concept of the FFS addresses only single a problem at a time.
- No budgeting for a vehicle for the project has been a mistake. New tyres are urgently needed for existing vehicles. Diesel supply line is being well managed but petrol supply arrangements are lacking resulting in shortages and dependence on high priced fuel on the local market.
- The failure of OFA has resulted in loss of interest in the project by some farmers. Animal traction equipment was a key result area for the project and of principle interest to the farmers. When OFA did not implement according to plan, some farmers lost interest. Only the VSLA is keeping some farmers together. Interest in farming had declined, they expected to use the ploughs and have their bulls trained and to procure ploughs.

- General free distribution of inputs is still taking place by NGOs. Progressive farmers still want inputs for free and when NGOs persist in supplying free inputs the project faces difficulties in sustaining its approach. On the other hand the project is trying to bridge the gap between farmers and input suppliers, but what discourages suppliers is the free distribution of inputs by NGOs. They are not willing to supply when they know farmers are receiving inputs directly from NGOs. This is why up to now there are still no established input dealers in the Warrap State. Many traders are ready to supply on contract. Input trade fares which have an MOU with traders have proven successful.

Further actions required

- NRC should submit the final draft of Project Baseline report, September 2014 (conducted by RDC Kenya).
- NRC should complete the list of GPS Coordinates for the Boumas served by the project
- NRC should update the Project work plan for Jan to June 2016 to include the activities not yet completed. This should include quarterly targets.
- NRC should prepare a procurement Plan, and quarterly summaries of breakdown of funds expenditure to date and expenditure forecasts
- NRC should complete and share with the EUD the project M&E Plan and exist strategy and a list of other projects / partners and main activities.
- NRC must commission an external midterm review as for foreseen under the project. NRC should prepare the TORs for the project Mid-term Evaluation / Review and share these with the EUD.
- NRC must ensure to collect relevant project information against its baseline and must proceed with planting and harvest forecasts and crop production estimates.
- NRC should continue to set the agenda participate in meetings with MOA, this should establishing together with MOA a number of working briefs in the fields of: a.) GIS referenced registration of activities by various partners, b.) Human resource development, c.) Producer group and cooperative formation, d.) Value Chain points of leverage, e.) Post-harvest production management and marketing, f.) Crop and food supply forecasts.

Changes to project context

- Rapid inflation
- Failure of OFA
- Drought (dry spell) – late rains
- Fighting between Aguek and Apuk communities along the border of GE and GW has affected some farmers on both sides of the border (they have moved away from their lands).
- Condition of trunk roads results in frequent vehicle repairs

Progress toward achieving project objectives in summary

- Overall objective: Enhanced livelihoods, increased food security and reduced vulnerability of rural households.
- Specific objective: Diversified sustainable agricultural production and income of rural households.

On achievements against each specific result

Result 1: County and Payam level agricultural extension systems strengthened and providing support to smallholder farmers throughout the farming season.

NRC signed separate Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) documents with State Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Cooperatives and Rural Development (SMAFCRD) and State Ministry of Animal Resources and Fisheries (SMARF) and specific agreements with extension workers for the following reasons; to support State Ministry officials in playing their complementary roles in providing extension support, to support the trained extension workers in providing their services for the duration of the action, to make each stakeholder understand their roles and responsibilities in regards to the project. The action has managed to implement the activities in collaboration with government extension workers since the start of the project. Meetings with government extension services staff continue from State to Payam level.

Formation of the SORUDEV State Technical Committee – February 2015. The committee is chaired by SMAFCRD, NRC is the secretariat while SMARF (including the two ministries' different departments) and local partners - LCAD1 and OFA2 are members. This committee meets to discuss technical issues and also monitoring of activities. Two meetings have been held so far and there are plans to carry out monitoring visits to project locations this farming season.

Transfer of transport and office assets to State Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Cooperatives and Rural Development (SMAFCRD) and Implementing partners was done: 12 motorbikes, 64 bicycles, 11 Desktops, 5 printers, Desks, chairs, and filing cabinets. Payment of monthly allowances for running, repair and maintenance cost to support government extension workers who received project motorbikes.

Trained 31 agricultural extension workers in Farmer Field School Approach. Technical facilitation was provided by FAO which organized facilitators from its own National and state offices, NBeG, Warrap and National Ministry of Agriculture and also State Ministry of Animal Resources and Fisheries (SMARF). The plan was that each of the trained extension workers would facilitate 2 FFSs during the first cycle. However by the start of the 2015 farming season when FFSs were starting 25 out of the 31 trained were still available. Therefore 50 FFSs have been scheduled to start this season. Sent 4 County extension officers to Yei Crop Training Centre for a nine months Agribusiness course. The training started in March and will end in November 2015. The four will have 2 weeks internship with VSF-German and World Vision in July. The two organizations have already accepted to support the students.

Draft extension manuals for 11 crops were compiled by the SORUDEV technical team during a workshop held in Rumbek in March 2015. These manuals were shared with all SORUDEV partners for utilization and comments. NRC held a dissemination workshop focusing on four of the draft manuals i.e. sorghum, maize, sweet potatoes and groundnuts in preparation for the 2015 main farming season. The workshop was attended by 30 extension workers; eight from the government, seven from LCAD and 15 from NRC. Since all the extension workers

¹ Lukluk Community Association for Development

² Ox plough Farming Agency

had been involved in training farmers before using different manuals, it was important to note that discussions on the draft manuals enabled them to share their experiences and relate that to the standardized³ manuals.

Installation of solar system to Twic Agricultural County offices. Three offices more to be fitted with solar power. The contracted company started working on 20th of June 2015. The budget which was meant for supporting solar installation in 6 offices can now only cover 4 so the Technical Committee met to prioritize the four to be targeted and the selected were 2 partner offices and 2 County Agricultural Extension offices in Tonj South and Twic. This decision might be revisited since complaints have been received already from Gogrial West County.

Result 2: Targeted households have improved access to inputs, knowledge and skills in diversified crop production, post-harvest management and environmental protection

The action registered 4,725 farmers for support through this project (between 990 and 1250 farmers organised in 40 to 50 groups in each County). All the registered 4,725 smallholder farmers (183 Farmer Groups) from the four operational counties in Warrap state have been trained in Leadership skills and Village Savings and Loan modalities as a strategy to build the community's internal capacity to access agricultural inputs and extension services by themselves. The action procured and distributed VSLA money boxes and stationery to all trained VSLA groups.

VSLA groups will be used to introduce FFSs this season, an approach which was agreed at the SORUDEV Inter State coordination meetings. Establishment of 10 Farmer Field Schools in Twic and Gogrial West Counties. Training of 50 Farmer field school community facilitators in Tonj South, Gogrial East and Gogrial West Counties. These will establish and supervise farmer field schools at the payam levels. Environmental conservation awareness campaigns in 8 Payams with average of 180 participants attending the awareness campaigns. Training of 50 farmers on land use planning and management. Training of farmers on pest and disease control on cereal crops.

Result 3: Smallholder farmers have access to and adopt animal traction technology and other improved farming implements

Recruitment and training of 40 Ox plough trainers from four counties (two weeks training) was conducted by OFA technical team. The 40 trainers were deployed to the four counties where they were able to conduct training of 260 teams of oxen and farmers in ox plough farming. This was 130% of target. Overwhelming numbers of farmers interested in receiving direct training from ox plough trainers led to this increase in target numbers. Show casing of ox-plough usage for cultivation in the communities. The project will continue monitoring transfer of the ox ploughing skills from the trained farmers to other farmers through FFSs and direct extension by the field staff.

Result 4: Smallholder farmers have increased access to markets and other value chain actors

Under this result area, activities have been planned for the second and third years. So far, 2 Staff have been trained by FAO under the AFIS program in Warrap State. Preparations are under way to train the farmers on market information. Value chain actors consultative meeting has been conducted in Kuajok. A total of 10 value chain actors participated.

³ Reference to standardised manual also mean the draft manuals at this stage, as they have been shared with stakeholders and adopted. What remains is the signing off with the Ministry of Agriculture.

Sustainability of the Action

The action was revised in an inception workshop held in Wau in July 2014. The "Wau Resolutions" emphasized the need to move from emergency/relief mode to long-term development by utilising developmental approaches in the activities with the agricultural sector actors, beginning with the smallholder farmers. NRC worked to embrace the developmental approaches internally and with the target communities as this was a change from most of the previous and on-going programmes. Training of the field teams in the developmental approaches selected was done in order to promote dissemination of relevant and appropriate information to the farmers in order to reach the overall programme objective.

In its interim report of April 2015 NRC reported that its EU funded action had registered 4,725 farmers for support through this project. Of the registered smallholder farmers, 3,945 from the four operational counties in Warrap state were reported to have been trained in Leadership skills and Village Savings and Loan modalities as a strategy to build the community's internal capacity to access agricultural inputs and extension services by themselves.

Collaboration with the government's two relevant ministries (SMAFCRD and SMARF) took place and a technical team chaired by the government with NRC as the secretariat was formed to provide technical guidance and monitor implementation. NRC continued its collaboration with other EU funded projects more specifically those contracted for the feeder road construction and Agricultural and Food security Information System (AFIS) components. The overall progress of the action is positive despite challenges related to the general economic and security situation in South Sudan.

Cross-cutting and other issues

- *EU Visibility*

NRC is communicating with the target population in Warrap state to raise their awareness of the action, how NRC and the EU are working together to improve food security through support to smallholder farmers. The national and state media have been used collaboration with SMAFCRD to deliver messages at the programme launch, transfer of assets to government and partners and graduation of extension workers in training funded by the action. EU funding of the action is announced and exhibited in banners, and in airplay on National television and local radio stations. NRC also provided T/shirts with the same messages to the extension staff. All assets procured and transferred to government and partners have stickers indicating that the funding was from the EU.

- *Gender issues*

Project is targeting women groups and some women leaders. Empowering women and establish equality in groups because women mainly earn income from sale of agriculture products. The community has so many cattle but women do not have access to their sale benefits even if they own the cattle. Decision making power is lacking on ownership of assets such as cattle. Vegetable farming gives women a possibility to earn an income that they are able to do in view of their other homestead commitments. Animal traction for cultivation allows them to plough land efficiently.

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

A key success of the NRC VSLA activity is that it has brought the members together for joint learning and operations. Many VSLA groups are using their joint savings and internal borrowing to conduct trade activities, and would like to access credit to extend this and to diversify and increase their incomes by starting new activities. Poorly performing VSLA

groups are in areas where free inputs distribution is still taking place in the vicinity and in some cases where the risk of lending is considered to be too high.

Revolving funds involving both CBOs and community banks where they exist is an option that should be considered. In order to increase production savings group need a rapid injection of loan capital. Supporting CBOs as lending intermediaries to VSLAs is a vital potential role in linking traders to farmer VSLAs, and sources of funds to community banks and to traders.

A key concern raised was the need for seeds and tools to be available in the markets at fair prices. Currently the variety, quality and quantity of good vegetable seed is scarce in a few main markets in the State, generally availability is limited to supplies by project interventions. Saving of OP vegetable seed is still limited to only a few crops such s okra and lady-finger. There is a widespread interest in a broad range of trees to produce fruits for market (e.g. papaya).

Linking traders to farmers has faced a number of complications, such as assuring traders with guarantees and registration of farmers who wanted to procure ploughs but wanted to know the price of the ploughs in advance of registration. Increased uptake of ox-ploughs is still critical to any strategy to increase agricultural production in view of a general lack of capacity and a shortage of ploughs in particular.

Groundnut/simsim processing (oil extraction) has been identified as a priority value addition demonstration activity needed in the region which is currently facing a drought year but in normal times is a large producer of groundnuts. There is an immediate need for a groundnut shellers.

Another key success of the project is allocation of land to farmer groups and the training provided them. Joint investments of inputs into collective efforts are showing results. Some progressive farmers who were trained in a group are now farming at larger scale individually. Avenues (Govt. NGOs and CBOs and their partners) to provide continued support to these progressive farmers need to be sustained.

Common points of concern are water supply and availability and use of appropriate water technologies (pumps, water barrows, watering cans) and production failures due to insect damage. There is a need to develop a broad based water use development plan, an insect pest management plan, and policy on the use of chain link fencing.

Food security cluster meetings that have in the past been held on a monthly basis should be continued, and regular booklet listing / highlighting progress, main decisions, surveys, studies, lessons etc should be considered in future planning.

Greater awareness is needed on appropriate management of animal traction working livestock. They require special treatment and care that is different to that of other free-range stock.

Warrap State is well endowed with fish resources. There is a widespread shortage of capture fishing equipment in Warrap State, development of input and product value chains for this resource should be prioritised. Scaling up of fishpond farming piloted by World Vision is also a priority.

Further attention to the development of research centres is needed. Currently there is no capacity for testing seeds (purity, certification etc) or soil, conducting of field trials. Generally there is an outstanding need for the development of effective experimental and model / demonstration farms. This is an aspect that requires urgent attention, and a special pool fund should be created for this purpose. Demonstration farms are very important. Counties are

allocating land amounting to 60 Feddans each for the purpose of initiating a demonstration farm. This should include a seedling nursery and also produce trees for transplanting.

More support is expected from partners in capacity development, more and regular refresher courses should be included in projects in this regard. More training is needed on FFS. Locations have been identified and prepared. Regular training of extension staff is needed in order to prepare them to train FFS facilitators. The resource needs of a cascaded training and extension model should not be underestimated and thorough broad-based-planning should take place before committing to such projects. FFS are a new methodology and county staff need training in many areas to run FFS.

Production of fruit trees for mothers and children is a priority, and activities/projects for schools for planting of fruit trees is important. The idea of food security in the county needs to extend beyond cereals, and the use of trees and vegetable gardens needs to be taken up together with activities for nutrition education in schools. It is important to have nutrition included under the umbrella of food security. For this reason it is important to support and build local capacities in this regard.

Before selection of CBOs takes place, a process of critical review and verification of candidates needs to take place for all projects. This should involve County Government staff and community leaders. CBOs must be recognised and contracted together with local authorities. They must have systems in place, be known on the ground, have a local base and local representation, and must have adequate capability and capacity to undertake any work assigned to them. They should not be an organisation in name only run by two or three people.

Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration activities are very simple. These need to be expanded because there is a considerable threat of semi-desertification in the area. Farmers are benefitting from forest areas but are also destroying these areas. A major issue is lack of awareness and knowledge. There is also significant potential for positive linkages in the field of agro-forestry.

It is important to increase project coverage of all communities left behind. The project should continue and be scaled-up. The EU projects in Warrap State do not cover all the Payams, and in those covered less than 10 % of the Boumas are covered. Consequently the majority of the people in need are not being reached.

3 Programme Schedule

Day	Time	Event	Responsibility
Sun 08/11/2015	14:00 - 17:30	Travelling from Wau to Alek	Dilla/Taban
Mon 09/11/2015	09:00 - 12:30	Meeting NRC management and Food Security Staff	Edington Chinyoka
	14:00 - 16:30	Field Visit - Mayom Farmer/VSLA group in Alek North	Mario/Dilla
Tue 10/11/2015	8:30 - 13:00	Travel to Kuajok and have a meeting with LCAD	Abel/Peter Aketch
	14:00 - 4:00	Field visit to LCAD Group in Kuac-North	Abel/Peter Aketch
Wed 11/11/2015	09:00 - 12:30	Field visit to LCAD Group. Meeting in Kuajok with SMAFCRD, SMARF and LCAD	Taban / Peter-SMAF&CRD
	14:00 - 15:00	Travel to Gogrial and have a meeting with CAD	Dilla/Samuel Maker
Thu 12/11/2015	08:30 - 12:30	Travel to Wunrok and have meetings with County Authorities and farmer groups.	Majak/Dilla
Fri 13/11/2015	09:00 - 12:00	Feed back to NRC team	Angus Graham
Sat 14/11/2015			
Sun 15/11/2015			

4 People met and activities to visited

Names	Position	Email	Telephone
NRC			
Eddington Chinyoka	Project Manager	eddington.chinyoka@nrc.no	0959300543
Taban Kaps Robert	Project Coordinator	taban.kaps.robert@nrc.no	0923018176
Dilla Cyrus Iyu	Project Officer		
Majak Emmanuel	Project Officer		
LCAD			
		lcadcbo@gmail.com	
Arkangel Abel Amet	Programme Manager	abel.lcad@gmail.com	0956799944
Dut Wek Mayem	Logistics Assistant		0956620679
Maleng Ayok	Community Assistant	malengayok@gmail.com	0955847473
Michael Monydeng	Finance Assistant	peter.amet@yahoo.com	0955372643

Mayom Totin. (VSLA Group)

Date: 09/09/2015		Prepared by: Peter Giir & Gabriel Baak.			
Village: Mayom Totin.		Payam: Alek North.			
Boma: Karaduet.		County: Gogrial West.			
Name in Full	Sex (M/F)	Age (Youth/Adult/Elder)	Status (Ret/IDP/HC)	HH Size	
Peter Giir Kuech Mayar	M	A	HC	8	
Gabriel Baak Akot	M	A	HC	6	
Mary Abuk Madut	F	E	HC	6	
Deng Rany Guot	M	E	HC	7	
Amiir Ding Wol	F	E	HC	7	
John Ariath Piol Majok	M	A	HC	7	
James Dhel Dhel	M	A	HC	4	
Mayar Akec Kuac	M	A	HC	5	
Yel Deng Mayar	M	A	HC	6	
Majok Wol Aguang	M	E	HC	8	
Peter Piol Aguang	M	Y	HC	4	
Atak Wol Kuan	F	E	HC	9	
Athur Majok Dut	F	A	HC	6	
Deng Wol Ngang	M	A	HC	5	
Deng Wol Bol	M	A	HC	4	
Ring Akot Lual	M	Y	HC	3	

Manut Garang Mayar	M	A	Ret	7
Bol Bol Kuot	M	A	Ret	6
Akuac Bol Deng	F	A	IDP	5
Majok Agung Kur	M	A	HC	4
Majok Dhal Deng	M	A	HC	7
Kuel Parek Thel	M	E	HC	8
Kuec Akec Kuec	M	A	HC	6
Atong Mathou Wol	F	E	HC	9
Kuc Kuithping Kuc	M	E	HC	8

Lol Kou (VSLA Group).

Date: 09/09/2015		Prepared by: Gabriel Goch.		
Village: Lol Kou		Payam: Wunrok		
Boma: Titchok		County: Twic		
Name in Full	Sex (M/F)	Age (Youth/ Adult/Elder)	Status (Ret/ IDP/HC)	HH Size
Mum Majok Dut	M	A	HC	6
Aluel Ring Deng	F	A	HC	7
Abuk Akier Kuot	F	A	HC	5
Deng Abun Deng	M	Y	HC	8
Koc Manut Ayuel	M	Y	HC	6
Abuk Deng Biar	F	E	HC	6
Adior Deng Ngor	F	E	HC	5
Morwel Majok Dut	M	Y	HC	7
Akuot Monyjang Mawien	F	A	HC	5
Ajok Majok Dut	F	A	HC	7
Ajor Atem Aguek	F	A	HC	8
Ayen Manut Ayuel	F	A	HC	9
Alek Monyjang Mawien	F	A	HC	7
Agor Abun Deng	F	A	HC	6
Nhomachot Madut Ring	M	A	HC	4
Abuk Dut Ring	F	A	HC	6
Abuk Manut Ayuel	F	A	HC	5
Dhal Malual Chol	M	A	HC	8
Ring Akier Kuot	M	A	HC	7
Deng Dook Mawien	M	A	HC	4
Nyangmum Gum Angok	F	A	HC	7
Majut Abun Deng	M	A	HC	9
Ngor Majok Dut	M	A	HC	7
Deng Arop Mawiir	M	A	HC	8
Wol Abun Deng	M	E	HC	9

Langdior (VSLA Group)

Name in Full	Share Value	Accumulated Capital	Share Bought	New share value	Capital and Profit	Profit
Abuk Madut	10	400	40	15.9	636	236
Adior Nyoul	10	400	40	15.9	636	236
Acuil Kuac	10	400	40	15.9	636	236
Adungwei Yor	10	400	40	15.9	636	236
Amiir Majok	10	400	40	15.9	636	236
Maror Wol Deng	10	400	40	15.9	636	236
Alek Wol	10	400	40	15.9	636	236
Nyawiiir Noi	10	390	39	15.9	620	230
Parech Deng	10	390	39	15.9	620	230

Support to implementing partners of SORUDEV, ZEAT-BEAD and FSTP
Monitoring Visit November 2015: NRC

Nyanut Deng	10	390	39	15.9	620	230
Nyanut Arop	10	390	39	15.9	620	230
Nyakiir Majak	10	390	39	15.9	620	230
Ajok Ayuel	10	390	39	15.9	620	230
Achuei Monycigok	10	390	39	15.9	620	230
Nyakiir Ayuel	10	380	38	15.9	604	224
Nyadong Makuei	10	380	38	15.9	604	224
Aker Ring	10	380	38	15.9	604	224
Achol Madut	10	370	37	15.9	588	218
Abuk Deng	10	340	34	15.9	540	200
Achol Yach	10	330	33	15.9	524	194
Abuk Machel	10	320	32	15.9	508	188
Guik Majok	10	310	31	15.9	492	182
Deng Deng	10	150	15	15.9	238	88
Nyariak Teng	10	140	14	15.9	222	82
Mam Gout	10	130	13	15.9	206	76
Ngok Mabior	10	70	7	15.9	111	41
Ayak Chol	10	40	4	15.9	63	23
TOTAL	270	8870	887	15.9	14096	5226

5 Picture Gallery



Row Matnagai Animal Traction Centre, Rumbek



Nyankot Women's Farmer VSLA Groups in Rumbek



Malith Rural Blacksmith Centre, Rumbek

Annex 1 Project Summary

Title of the Project	"Increased agricultural production and income for small holder farmers affected by displacement in Warrap State of South Sudan" 2014-2017
Implementing Agency	Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)
Location(s) of the action: specify country(ies) and region(s) that will benefit from the action	State: Warrap Counties ⁴ : Gogrial East, Gogrial West, Tonj South and Twic Payams ⁵ : Gogrial East (Pathuon East, Pathuon West, Toc East, Toc South and Toc North), Gogrial West (Alek North, Alek South, Alek West, Riau, Akon North, Akon South, Kuach North, Kuach South), Twic (Turalei, Aweng, Panyok, Wunrok, Akoc) Tonj South (Tonj, Thiet, Jak Mathok, Wath-Alel, Manyang Ngok)
Total duration of the action (months)	33 months from 01 May 2014 to 31 January 2017
Objectives of the action	<u>Overall objective</u> : Enhanced livelihoods, increased food security and reduced vulnerability of rural households <u>Specific objective</u> : Diversified sustainable agricultural production and income of rural households.
Target group(s) ⁶	30,000 returnees, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host community members, of which 70% are female and 60% are returnees and IDPs (5,000 households).
Final beneficiaries ⁷	Final beneficiaries: 638,701 people (329,572 female and 309,129 male) in Twic, Gogrial West, Gogrial East and Tornj South Counties of Warrap State
Estimated results	R1 – <i>Strengthened agricultural extension providing support to farmers</i> R2 – <i>Improved access to inputs, knowledge and skills</i> R3 – <i>Adoption of animal traction and other farming implements</i> R4 – <i>Increased access to markets and other value chain actors</i>
Main activities	A1 – Training of extension staff and visits to farmers, meetings and lessons learned. A2 – Farmer field days, post-harvest mgt. and envt. conservation training and tree planting A3 – Linking of farm implement traders to farmers and demonstration of use A4 – Farmer leadership creation, consultation of value chain actors and training of smallholder farmers in small business management skills, set up of market information systems,
Number of technical staff	Project Manager, Project Coordinator, Data Entry Officer, 8 Project Officers, 3 Project Assistants

⁴ County: an administrative unit in South Sudan immediately below the State

⁵ Payam: an administrative unit in South Sudan immediately below the County, equivalent to a District

⁶ "Target groups" are the groups/entities who will directly benefit from the action

⁷ "Final beneficiaries" are those who will benefit from the action in the long term at the level of the community or sector at large

Annex 2 Project Staff

Name	Gender	Position	Telephone	Email
Eddington Chinyoka	M	Project Manager	0959300543	eddington.chinyoka@nrc.no
Taban Kaps Robert	M	Project Coordinator	0923018176	taban.kaps.robert@nrc.no
Simon Dhol Deng	M	Data Entry Officer		
Dilla Cyrus Iyu	M	Project Officer		
Adekbeny Malang Bol	F	Project Officer		
Santino Athian Athian	M	Project Officer		
Noi Yak Noi	M	Project Officer		
Aguer Joseph Kuot	M	Project Officer		
Gabriel Goc Atem	M	Project Officer		
Joseph Garang Achom	M	Project Officer		
Majak Emmanuel	M	Project Officer		
Kon Mayol Reech	M	Project Assistant		
Gabriel Ater	M	Project Assistant		

Annex 3 Work Plan: July 2015 to December 2015

	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
1.2 Training of extension staff								
1.6 Extension visits to farmers								
1.7 Extension review meetings								
1.8 Lessons Learnt / Experiences								
1.9 SORUDEV IP Coordination								
2.1 Running FFSs								
2.2 Support VSLAs								
2.4 Train 400 farmers in dry season small scale irrigation farming and establishment of small scale irrigation schemes								
2.5 Farmer field days/trade shows								
2.6 Post-harvest management training and construction of improved granaries								
2.7 Conduct Diet Diversification and Food Hygiene sessions								
2.8 Environmental Conservation (EC) Awareness training								
2.9 Plant fruit trees								
3.3 Linking ox-plough/weeder traders with farmers								
3.4 Establishment of ox-plough/weeder spare parts fabrication and sale								
3.5 Showcasing animal traction cultivation.								
3.6 Promotion and Showcasing use of Jembe/Hoe								
4.1 Creation and training of smallholder farmers' leadership and representation								
4.2 Hold value chain actors' consultative sessions								
4.3 Housing, Land and Property (HLP) awareness sessions								
4.4 Set up a market information dissemination system								
4.5 Train smallholder farmers and other value chain actors in small scale business management skills								

Annex 4 Progress toward achieving objectives

Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Achievement as at EU Visit in July 2015	Update as of Nov 2015
Overall objective To contribute to increased food security, reduced vulnerability and enhanced livelihoods of rural households in Warrap State.	% change # HH with an acceptable Food Consumption Score- (Baseline average: 36.7% <i>Target value: 50%</i>) % change # HH able to generate enough food/cash incomes to meet the livelihood protection threshold (HEA Analysis)- <i>Target: At least 50% from Baseline.</i>	Estimated 40% of HH have an acceptable Food Consumption score. Estimated 10% of HH are able to generate enough cash income to meet the livelihood protection threshold.	Estimated 50% of HH have an acceptable food consumption score as a result of the project. Estimated 30% of HH are able to generate enough cash income to meet the livelihood protection threshold
Specific objective Smallholder farmers in Warrap State have increased sustainable and diversified agricultural production and income.	% of targeted HH with increased income from agricultural production. <i>Target 60%.</i> % of targeted HH with increased production per unit area compared to previous years. <i>Target 60%.</i> % target HH practising diversified farming. <i>Target 60%.</i> % of farmers who report reduced post-harvest losses compared to the previous year. <i>Target 50%.</i>	40% of HH are practicing diversified farming. 20% of HH estimated to have increased production per unit area.	Estimated 50% of the HHs have increased their income from agricultural production. 40% of HH are practicing diversified farming. 30% of HH estimated to have increased production per unit area as a result of the application of improved farming practices (planting in line, timely weeding and pest and disease control). Trainings on postharvest handling is still on-going and the impact has not been measured.
Expected results R1 – "County and Payam level agricultural extension systems strengthened and providing support to small holder farmers throughout the farming season".	Number of extension staff trained in specific improved agricultural production and marketing techniques. <i>Target 82.</i> Number of extension review workshops conducted. <i>Target 6 (2 per year x 3 years).</i> Number of farmers receiving at least two extension support visits by trained SMAFCRD extension staff in each farming season. Baseline: 196, 3.9%. <i>Target 2,000, 40%</i>	78 extension staff from NRC, LCAD, OFA and government received specific trainings on agricultural production and marketing techniques. 3 extension review workshops have been conducted (2 in the first year and 1 in the second year). 1,525 farmers have received at least two extension support visits by trained government extension workers.	78 extension staff from NRC, LCAD, OFA and government received specific training on agricultural production and marketing techniques. 3 extension review workshops have been conducted (2 in the first year and 1 in the second year). Cumulative 1,930 farmers have received at least two extension support visits by trained government extension workers.
R2 – "Targeted HH have improve access to inputs, knowledge and skills in diversified crop production, post-harvest	# Farmers trained in production of crops, vegetables and fruit trees. Target 5,000 (3,825 women, 925 men, 125 girls (youth) and 125 boys (youth)). # Farmers trained in diet diversification and food hygiene.	All the trainings on crop production are to be administered through FFSs. The formation of 50 FFSs is still on-going. Interim	10 farmer field schools established for training farmers in production of crops. Training of 50 FFS community facilitators has been done. Each facilitator is to establish 1 farmer field school in the next coming farming season. This is to improve

Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Achievement as at EU Visit in July 2015	Update as of Nov 2015
management and environmental protection".	Target: 100 FFSs community facilitators. # Farmers trained in post-harvest technology. Target: 100 FFSs community facilitators # Trees planted by communities: Target 25,000 (5 trees per beneficiary).	report.	on community level learning and for sustainability purposes.
R3 – "Smallholder farmers have access to and adopt animal traction technology and other improved farming implements".	# Farmers trained in ox-plough techniques. <i>Target 400</i> # of feddans cultivated using ox ploughs and jembes/hoes per household. Baseline: 3 feddans. Target: 5 feddans per household # of ox-ploughs procured by the farmers: Baseline; 700 (14% owned ploughs subsidised mainly by NGOs). Target: 400 at full cost # of Jembes/hoes procured by the farmers: Baseline: not established. Target; 2,500 <i>Target 4,000.</i>	520 farmers trained on ox-plough techniques (260 teams of two)	520 farmers trained on ox-plough techniques (260 teams of two). Estimated 3.5 feddans cultivated by using ox-ploughs and jembes/hoes per household. Number of ploughs procured by farmers not estimated. Information has not been collected. Most farmers have been hesitant to purchase ploughs as a result of exponential increase in the prices of ploughs compared to last year. Number of Jembes/hoes procured by farmers has not been captured though most of the farmers are using hoes.
R4 – "Smallholder farmers have increased access to markets and other value chain actors".	# of farmers trained in market information analysis. Baseline; 0 Target: 1,000 # of farmers receiving market price information regularly. Baseline: 0 Target 200 # Enterprises trained in production and sale of farm implements and spare parts. Target 8.	Staff received training on market information dissemination from FAO.	Staff fully equipped with the training materials and information. Planning for the trainings has been adjusted as a result of other engagements the staff has been involved in. Value chain actors have been engaged in meetings

Annex 5 Challenges and follow-up actions

	Observations during the EU Field Mission in October 2014	Action taken/recommended during the EU Field Mission in July 2015	Update as of Nov 2015
Inputs cost recovery from beneficiaries, no free distribution of project inputs.	There is potential for contradictions and confusion among beneficiary communities facing different agencies implementing different strategies targeting different beneficiary groups in the same geographical area. Project implementers will examine delivery options per state, based on careful target group selection.	NRC seeks to provide durable solutions to target beneficiaries and supports self-reliance of displaced persons. The project was revised with a view to reducing aid dependency among project beneficiaries. All beneficiaries are engaged in a VSLA component added to the project, which will seek to strengthen linkages between farmers and agro dealers.	NRC is implementing the project with the idea of farmers incurring the costs for agricultural inputs. This has been the information passed to the farmers from the onset of project implementation. The farmers have taken this information seriously. They have been informed that they will be better able to support themselves if they can participate in the VSLA activities.
Limited number of Govt. extension staff and capacity.	The number of available extension is generally inadequate. They are poorly distributed in the counties and payams across South Sudan. Warrap State is no different. It may be difficult for NRC to train 100 Govt. extension workers since there may not be this number of such personnel in place to train.	The Action will target extension workers supporting the programme in Warrap State. NRC (10), LCAD (10), OFA extension workers/ox plough trainers (40) Govt. (22)	The capacity building training is part and parcel of the project and will continue up to the time the project ends. Government extension workers, NRC staff, LCAD staff and OFA staff all received training meant to improve the delivery of information to farmers.
Inadequate operations support from the NRC office in Juba.	Poor communication over the first six months of project preparation and implementation. NRC perceived to place more emphasis on other parts of the country. The SORUDEV project in Warrap State is a significant intervention that must be well supported and emerging events and issues attended to timeously.	NRC staff in Juba finds it difficult to participate in partners' quarterly review workshops and have not attended any such meetings.	The Juba Office has continued with providing support to the project and its implementation. Followed up closely with the EUD to Juba for the termination of the agreement with OFA and is engaging with the delegation of other issues pertaining the implementation of the project.
Collection of data.	NRC must put in place a functional data collection system in order to track progress against its logframe. Data collection tools will need to be developed and staff will need to be trained in the use of those tools.	Extension staff from each County has been pivotal in data collection and sharing the information with the NRC Data Entry Officer (DEO). Training on data collection tools that have been developed is needed.	Staff of the project has been involved in data collection with tools provided to them. This has made data collection easy but could be improved with the recruitment of an M&E Officer instead of relying on DEO.
Deteriorating road conditions and shortages of fuel.	Disruption of road travel and delivery of supplies is predictable. NRC will need to preposition essential supplies, in Alek (and possibly in Luonyaker and Tonj) in advance of periods of shortage (August – November) and should advise, guide and assist its private sector partners to do likewise (pre-positioning fuel, tools, seed, etc.).	Fuel management continues to be a critical element. The security situation on the road is unpredictable and it quite often possess a bigger threat to fuel shortages than the bad roads	Fuel is problem since most fuel stations in Wau and Kuajok run dry as a result of dollar scarcity. The NRC Alek field office fuel tank is occasionally empty. Supply of petrol for use by motorcycles is a more pressing problem that requires a solution.
Inflation.	Price of project items rising against the budget.		The inflation rate is having a negative effect on the budget.
Conflicts.	Suspension of activities in some areas of Warrap state (Gogrial		The recruitment of 2 project

	West, Gogrial East and Tonj South Counties). NRC had to evacuate staff. In order to continue with project activities in Gogrial East NRC is in the process of recruiting two project Assistants in Gogrial East. The Ministry of labour has already approved the process.	assistants for Gogrial East was successfully conducted and are now on the ground implementing activities.
Harmonisation with IP OFA.	Harmonization of activities with local partners especially with Ox plough Farming Agency has not been smooth, even with capacity building efforts. NRC has shared the challenge with SMAFCRD and its Country office management which handling the issue.	Project implementation agreement with OFA has been terminated with support from EU, as a result of breach of agreement and related issues.
Project management.	NRC should recruit a successor to the Project Manager, and make a temporary deployment until the position is filled. The project does not have a workable M&E System. The staff does not have the capacity to undertake a full M&E function, this must be addressed by NRC.	The Project Manager has already been recruited and contracted and resident in Alek.
Priorities and performance.	NRC has been focussing on VSLA activities. More attention to supporting farmers' access to quality extension services during the farming season is needed. NRC should establish how many of the VSLA group members are smallholder farmers (5 feddans) and how many are subsistence / vulnerable farmers.	Introduction of the VSLA and FFs is demanding yet an important platform for farmers to work and learn together. Training farmers to produce will be an area of focus next season.
Crop yield estimation.	Project officers and extension agents do not know the project beneficiaries total area under cultivation, farm sizes and types of crops cultivated by each, sources of their inputs (seeds), and needs for inputs and extension services. NRC should determine how many project beneficiaries have at least 5 feddans or have potential to reach that target with the scope of this project. NRC should compile regular planting and crop assessments. The project should assist any targeted subsistence farmers to graduate into net surplus producers during the next farming season.	Project has been able to collect information on average land under cultivation (Feddans). Some areas have been inaccessible and data has not been collected. sorghum 3.2 (5,664 Total) grndnut 3.5 (3,230 Total) simsim 1.0 (500 Total) maize 0.5 (162 Total)
Exit strategy.	Project has no exit and sustainability strategy, this should be done jointly by NRC, LCAD, target groups representatives, and the government. It should include types of future support anticipated by the Government or other agencies, and any synergies and linkages to ongoing efforts.	This is a task that the new PM will take on and ensure that there is a well spelt exit and sustainability strategy for the project that has been agreed upon by all stakeholders.
Govt. support.	Procurement of six new motorbikes through re-allocated of project funds in consultation with EUD in order to support government extension personnel seconded to the project in line with the project Steering Committee request during the TA monitoring mission.	Purchase requisition has been raised for the procurement of the 6 motorcycles requested by the Ministry (Ref EUD Juba).
Procurement planning.	Procurement of solar equipment necessary to run computers and printers in two counties offices (Gogrial West and Gogrial East) was not possible due to inflation and under budgeting. Ascertain the exact need in consultation with VSF-G and revert to EUD.	The plan now is to move the Solar equipment procured for OFA to the County offices. Procurement of necessary accessories is needed.
Exchange of Information & knowledge	NRC should consider exchange visits by its project staff with HARD in Wau, NPA in Rumbek and VSFG and World Vision in Warrap Warrap to learn and share ideas on how to better provide sustainable extension services. NRC and the government steering committee should consider having quarterly meetings. Monthly County meetings with a State focal person and County Agriculture Director should take place to review the monthly work plan, undertake joint monitoring, and to identify/ resolve challenges affecting project.	Exchange visits have not been organised. A meeting with CAD Inspectors was conducted to strengthen project monitoring. Changes in the Ministry occurred and there is a new Minister who will be the Chairperson of the steering committee.

Annex 6 Work Plan: January 2016 to June 2016

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
1.2 Training of extension staff				
1.6 Extension visits to farmers.				
1.7 Extension review meetings				
1.8 Lessons Learnt / Experiences				
1.9 SORUDEV IP Coordination				
2.1 Running FFSS				
2.2 Support VSLAs				
2.4 Train 400 farmers in dry season small scale irrigation farming and establishment of small scale irrigation schemes				
2.5 Farmer field days/trade shows				
2.6 Post-harvest management training and construction of improved granaries				
2.7 Conduct Diet Diversification and Food Hygiene sessions				
2.8 Environmental Conservation (EC) Awareness training				
2.9 Plant fruit trees				
3.3 Linking ox-plough/weeder traders with farmers				
3.4 Establishment of ox-plough/weeder spare parts fabrication and sale				
3.5 Showcasing animal traction cultivation				
3.6 Promotion and Showcasing use of Jembe/Hoe				
4.1 Creation and training of smallholder farmers' leadership and representation				
4.2 Hold value chain actors' consultative sessions				
4.3 Housing, Land and Property (HLP) awareness sessions				
4.4 Set up a market information dissemination system				
4.5 Train smallholder farmers and other value chain actors in small scale business management skills				

Annex 7 Operational Payam & Boma GPS Information

COUNTY	PAYAM	BOMA	COORDINATES	
			Latitude	Latitude
TWC	Wunrok	ABEK	N 09°07'42"	E 028°19'44"
		AJONG	N 09°04'44"	E 028°20'35"
		MAN-ANGUI	N 08°54'54"	E 028°16'16"
		MAYEN ABUN	N 09°09'19"	E 028°21'56"
		TIITCHOK	N 08°56'39"	E 028°17'15"
		WUNROK BUS PARK	N 08°59'27"	E 028°18'13"
		WUNROK PAYAM H/QS	N 08°59'30"	E 028°17'57"
	AWENG	AWENG PAYAM H/QS	N 09°05'58"	E 028°33'26"
		MAJOK NOON	N 09°12'12"	E 028°35'23"
		MAPER	N 09°06'21"	E 028°30'09"
		PAGAI ANYUON	N 09°06'47"	E 028°31'38"
		PANAGOK	N 09°08'52"	E 028°35'16"
	PANYOK	MAJAK PAGAI	N 09°06'46"	E 028°15'01"
		PANYOK PAYAM H/QS	N 09°05'09"	E 028°12'21"
		TUELE		
		AKAK	N 09°04'14"	E 028°07'12"
	TURALEI	ADOL		
		PANDIT	N 09°00'19"	E 028°22'00"
		TURALEI PAYAM H/QS	N 09°05'01"	E 028°25'01"
		MAJAK AHEER	N 09°04'31"	E 028°25'06"
		MANGOK AMOL	N 09°02'45"	E 028°23'30"
	Akoc	NYIEL ABIEL	N 09°05'15"	E 028°27'22"
		AKOC PAYAM H/QS	N 09°08'10"	E 028°01'13"
GOGRIAL WEST	ALEK NORTH	MAYOM TOTIN		
		AJANG DHENG		
		RIANG AJOONG		
		MALEK NGOK		
	ALEK SOUTH	MABIOR PAGONG		
		NGAPATHIAN	N 08°35'36"	E 028°07'16"
		NRC ALEK OFFICE	N 08°40'21"	E 028°09'01"
	ALEK WEST	ALEK SOUTH PAYAM H/QS	N 08°40'10"	E 028°09'01"
		PANDOU		
		ALEK WEST PAYAM H/QS	N 08°48'51"	E 028°04'12"
	RIAU	KEET		
		ANGUOTH	N 08°46'29"	E 028°12'07"
		RIAU PAYAM H/QS	N 08°49'17"	E 028°15'05"
	PANLIET			

Annex 8 Logical Framework

LOGICAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE PROJECT (NRC SORUDEV)				
	Intervention logic	Objectively verifiable indicators	Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
Overall objectives	<i>O1 – "To contribute to increased food security, reduced vulnerability and enhanced livelihoods of rural households in Warrap State"</i>	<p>Change in Household Hunger Scale (Baseline average scale: 1.9, Target scale 0-1)</p> <p>Change in Household Diet Diversity Score (HDDS) (Baseline average scale: 4.36. Target average scale 6+)</p>	<p>World Food Program/FAO Annual Crop and Food Security Assessment Reports.</p> <p>Household Economy Assessment reports by different agencies</p>	
Specific objective	<i>SO1 – "Smallholder farmers in Warrap State have increased sustainable and diversified agricultural production and income."</i>	<p>% change in households with increased income from farming. (Baseline average: 36.7%, Target 50% of households)</p> <p>% change in amount of crop yield per feddan per household. Baseline = Maize 81.3kg: White Sorghum 111.5kg : Red sorghum 94.5kg: Millet 181.3kg: Groundnut 60.4kg. Target: at least 10% increase</p> <p>% change of targeted farmers who report post-harvest losses. (Baseline value: 55%) Target: < 30%</p>	<p>Project Baseline, Mid line data collection survey. Mid-term and End Term survey Reports: Method- Representative Sample survey of the targeted small holder farmers</p> <p>Annual Crop Yield Assessment Reports: Method: Collection of crop yield data from a representative sample of the targeted farmers.</p> <p>State Ministry of Agriculture reports WFP/FAO Annual Crop and Food Security assessment reports: Method: Based on analysis of data from the WFP Food Security Monitoring System – FSMS. This data is collected from 10 sentinel sites in each state.</p>	<p>The security situation remains favourable and access to target areas is possible</p> <p>Climate and environment is favourable to agricultural production</p> <p>Renewed conflict does not displace already targeted beneficiaries and/or destroy agricultural land</p>

<p>Expected results</p>	<p>R1 – “County and Payam level agricultural extension systems strengthened and providing support to small holder farmers throughout the farming season”</p> <p>R2 – “ Targeted HH have improved access to inputs, knowledge and skills in diversified crop production, post-harvest management and environmental protection”</p> <p>R3 – “Smallholder farmers have access to and adopt animal traction technology and other improved farming implements”</p> <p>R4 –“Smallholder farmers have increased access to markets and other value chain actors”</p>	<p># of community facilitators trained in the farmer field school approach. Baseline: 0 Target 100</p> <p># of extension workers trained in FFS agricultural extension approach. Baseline: 0 Target 60</p> <p># of extension review workshops conducted. Baseline: 0 Target 186 (26 per year x 3 years)</p> <p># of farmers receiving at least two direct extension support visits by trained SMAFC&RD extension staff in each farming season. Baseline 195 (3.9%); Target 2000 (40%)</p> <p># of farmers participating in farmers’ field schools Baseline: 1, 950 (39%) Target 5, 000</p> <p># of farmers engaged in VSLAs Baseline 1, 400 (28%). Target 5, 000</p> <p># of farmers trained in diet diversification and food hygiene. Target 100 FFS community facilitators</p> <p># of farmers trained in improved post-harvest management technology. Target:100 FFS community facilitators</p> <p># of feddans cultivated using ox ploughs and jembes/hoes per household. Baseline: 3 feddans. Target 5 feddans per household</p> <p># of ox-ploughs procured by the farmers: Baseline; 700 (14% owned ploughs) . Target 400</p> <p># of Jembes/hoes procured by the farmers: Baseline: not established. Target; 2,500</p> <p># of farmers trained in market information analysis. Baseline; 0 Target 1,000</p> <p># of farmers receiving market price information regularly. Baseline: 0 Target 200</p> <p># of small enterprises trained in production of and sale of farm implements and spare parts. Baseline: 0. Target 8.</p>	<p>Source 1 - Training reports including attendance records (Indicator 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 3.1, 4.1.)</p> <p>Source 2- Extension Review Workshop Report (Indicator 1.32)</p> <p>Source 4- Field Assessment and Observation Visits Reports (Indicators 1.4, 2.5, 3.2, 4.2, 4.3.)</p> <p>Source 5 - Market Price Surveys (Indicator 4.2)</p>	<p>State Ministry officials will continue playing their complementary roles in providing extension support and other required forms of support.</p> <p>Trained extension workers will continue providing their services for the duration of the project.</p> <p>No major market disruptions will occur as to impact negatively, over prolonged periods of time on market activities including input supplies and movement of traders and buyers.</p> <p>Land for expansion of agricultural production will be easily availed to the targeted small holder farmers through the existing customary and civic procedures</p>
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<p>Activities</p>	<p>A1.1 <i>Dissemination of standardized Extension Training Manuals to the Extension workers.</i> A1.2 <i>Identification of 100 FFS community facilitators</i> A1.3 <i>Training 4 extension staff at local Agricultural Institutions</i> A1.4 <i>Equip County Agricultural extension Support offices with office equipment.</i> A1.5 <i>Distribute transport equipment to extension staff.</i> A1.6. <i>Extension Support Visits to Farmers</i> A1.7 <i>Extension support review meetings</i> A1.8 <i>Documentation of lessons and experiences</i> A1.9 <i>SORUDEV Partner Coordination Meetings</i></p> <p>A2.1 <i>Set up and run Farmer Field Schools</i> A2.2 <i>Formation and running Village Savings and Loaning Associations-</i> A2.3 <i>Link farmers with Agro-dealers</i> A2.4 <i>Train 400 farmers in dry season small scale irrigation farming and establishment of the small-scale irrigation schemes</i> A2.5 <i>Hold Farmer field days/trade shows</i> A2.6 <i>Post-harvest management training and construction of improved granaries.</i> A2.7 <i>Diet Diversification and Food Hygiene sessions</i> A2.8 <i>Environmental Conservation (EC) Awareness campaigns</i></p> <p>A3. 1 <i>Identification and selection of 400 farmers with access to oxen</i> A3. 2 <i>Training of trainers and farmers in animal traction</i> A3. 3 <i>Linking ox-plough/weeder traders with farmers.</i> A3. 4 <i>Establish ox-plough/weeder spare parts fabrication and sale.</i> A3.5 <i>Show casing ox-ploughs/weeder cultivation.</i> A3.6 <i>Promotion and Showcasing use of Jembe/Hoe</i></p> <p>A4.1 <i>Creation and training of smallholder farmers' leadership and representation</i> A4.2 <i>Hold value chain actors' consultative sessions.</i> A4.3 <i>Housing, Land and Property (HLP) awareness sessions</i> A4.4 <i>Set up a market information dissemination system.</i> A4.5 <i>Train smallholder farmers and other value chain actors in small scale business management skills</i></p>
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<p>Means: Staff: Local and international technical and support staff from NRC and 2 local implementing partners Equipment: Motor bikes and bicycles and land cruiser hardtops (hired) and contributed too by NRC, Ox ploughs and other farm implements Training: Training costs for both field staff and beneficiaries. Training materials</p>	<p>Costs Human Resources: 760,338 Euro Travel: 40,937 Euro Equipment and Supplies: 27,478 Euro Local Office costs: 193,841 Euro Other costs and services: 428,812 Euro Other: 625,437 Euro Indirect costs: 145,379 Euro Grant Total: 2,222,222 Euro</p>	<p>Access is secured to the affected populations No deterioration in security as to hamper the implementation of activities No major epidemics No further large-scale emergencies or displacement of population. Interest and support from the Government of South Sudan, UN, INGOs, NGOs, ECHO and external Governments</p>
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