



# IMPROVING FOOD SECURITY, LIVELIHOODS AND INCOME FOR VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES IN SOUTH SUDAN

Although South Sudan is endowed with abundant natural resources, including extensive agricultural land and reserves of oil, the country is disaster-prone and experiences protracted natural and man-made crises, which can manifest themselves in the form of widespread and persistent violence, population displacement and disruption of livelihoods. As the country faces a major humanitarian crisis, the number of people requiring aid has increased to nearly half of the total population. This crisis put some parts of the country on the verge of famine in 2017. This threat continues to linger, particularly in Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Warrap states, which suffer from a high prevalence of food insecurity and malnutrition. In response, the project put into practice a series of rehabilitation and development interventions aimed at supporting livelihood development for agropastoralists in both states.



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## WHAT DID THE PROJECT DO?

The project increased resilience and food security among agropastoralist communities in Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Warrap states. It did so through the following key outputs: (i) enhanced agropastoral advisory service delivery in Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Warrap states, (ii) establishment of sustainable community-based seed system in both states and capacity built among state and county actors on seed quality control, (iii) capacity developed for effective Natural Resource Management, sustainable agriculture and livestock production and (iv) improved livestock productivity through improved access to animal health services, water and pasture/fodder production and conservation. The project contributed to enhanced extension services delivery through agropastoral field school extension methodology, enabling FAO South Sudan to influence agricultural development programming, to offer technical support to Non-governmental Organization partners with regard to the field school extension approach and to build capacity within the line ministries, implementing partners and the local community. Community facilitators, field school mentors and master trainers were trained to fill the gaps in extension workers. The project also built a sustainable seed system to complement the existing markets, while livelihood diversification was embraced in all aspects of the project.

## IMPACT

The project successfully employed and promoted the Farmer Field School methodology, which is participatory, empowering, bottom-up and hence a sustainable approach. Efforts were made towards institutionalizing the Farmer/Agropastoral Field School approach within the communities, as well as within the prevailing advisory systems, thereby ensuring sustainability. Jobs were created for young people and women's associations through better farming practices, milk and meat value chain businesses for young people and women, cereal and seed bulking for field school associations and the provision of community-based animal health workers' kits and veterinary services. The direct beneficiaries recorded increases in their agricultural and livestock productivity, in particular seed multiplication, and their household level of income. Resource-based conflict was reduced in project locations through trainings and the strengthening of natural resource management committees.

## KEY FACTS

### Contribution

USD 3 740 167

### Duration

September 2013 – February 2018

### Resource Partners

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

### Partners

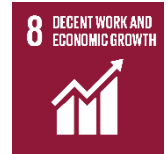
Action Against Hunger, African Development Solutions, Child Advocacy and Women Development Centre, Concern Worldwide, Farmers' Development Agency, Kueng Community Development Agency, Lukluk Community Action for Development, Madind-Aweil Community Animal Health Workers, South Sudan Grassroots Initiative for Development, *Vétérinaires Sans Frontières* Germany, World Vision

### Beneficiaries

Agropastoral households and communities in Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Warrap States

# ACTIVITIES

- Baseline survey on food security and the livelihood situation of agropastoralists in Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Warrap in June and July 2014 and recommendations issued as a result.
- Training provided to 165 community facilitators, including 93 Farmer Field School facilitators and 72 community-based animal health workers, aimed at building capacity for effective delivery of extension services.
- 134 Farmer/Agropastoral Field Schools established across the two target states.
- 24 community-based seed production groups formed and given hands-on training in elements such as pest and disease identification and management and post-harvest handling.
- 30 functional pastoralist field school groups established, reaching 900 pastoralists.
- Women's groups trained on milk handling, processing and marketing.
- A total of 117 147 animals, including cattle, sheep, goats and dogs, vaccinated and/or treated against common diseases in both states.
- Community-based animal health workers trained on disease detection and treatment, vaccination and disease surveillance and reporting.
- Local leaders and officials trained to enhance natural resource-based conflict resolution mechanisms.



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## Project Code

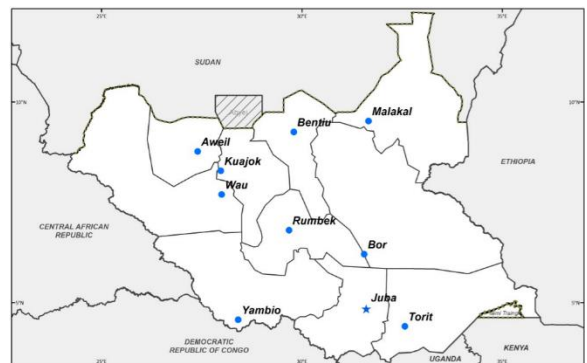
FAO: GCP/SSD/006/SWI  
Donor: 81019014

## Project Title

Improved Food Security and Livelihood Development for Agro-pastoralist Communities in Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Warrap States

## Contact

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