



FEED

FORTIFYING EQUALITY & ECONOMIC DIVERSITY





PROJECT SUMMARY

The FEED project envisions a brighter and stronger future for the people of South Sudan. Fortifying Equality and Economic Diversity, or FEED, is a food security, livelihoods and gender equality project being implemented in seven states in South Sudan by a Consortium of three Canadian leading International NGOs, namely World Vision, Oxfam and CARE Canada that intends to benefit 2,151,444 people (135,645 female and 79,499 male). The ultimate outcome of the project is to meet basic food security needs and reduce vulnerability amongst empowered communities and households in Greater Bahr el Ghazal, Lakes and Warrap states, and the Equatorias. The project is being implemented over three years from April 2015 to March 2018.

“ South Sudan is facing unprecedented levels of food insecurity, as 28 million people – nearly 25 percent of the country’s population – remain in urgent need of food assistance and the outlook for 2016 remains dire. ” (FAO.org/emergencies)

In partnership with the Government of Canada, the FEED project is well positioned to tackle the growing crisis in South Sudan and to make a lasting impact in the lives of the South Sudanese people. By being **Integrative, Inclusive, and Impactful**, the FEED project is working to reduce the vulnerability of the most marginalized people in the local population and increasing the resilience of the population to absorb both natural and human-made shocks.

WHO IS FEED?

Funded by the government of Canada (GAC), the FEED consortium, comprised of **World Vision, Oxfam, and CARE**, provides a unique opportunity for Canada’s largest development agencies to work together; learn from each other and establish best practices for South Sudan that will guide current and future development efforts for vulnerable communities.



INTEGRATED INTEGRATED APPROACH (HOW WE REACH OUR GOALS?)

The FEED project is a highly integrative and collaborative program, focusing on the inter-relationship each stakeholder has with one another. From the Consortium Management Committee that governs the implementation of the project, to the beneficiaries who are empowered to participate in the project activities, to the various government and donor stakeholders that interact with the program, the FEED project depends on mutual cooperation, trust, accountability and respect to accomplish its goals.

Encourages Participation –

The FEED consortium has formed field-based Technical Working Groups designed to inform decisions based on input and collaboration from community stakeholders, government representatives, donors, the existing cluster and sub-clusters in South Sudan, and consortium members.

Fosters Partnerships –

The FEED project has partnered with international and national NGOs in several locations in order to strengthen the relationships with the communities and to empower local organizations to development their capacity. Local Partners include:

- Community Needs Initiative (CNI)
- Women in Development Group (WDG)
- Dar for Rehabilitation and Development Association (DRDA)
- World Food Programme (WFP)
- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Engages in Continual Learning

The FEED consortium prioritizes the documentation and application of lessons learned through the Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Technical Working Group. Learnings are collected, analyzed and shared with partners and stakeholders in an effort to constantly be adapting to the environment and the demands on the project.

THE FEED PROJECT



Develops and maintains a cross-functional, tablet-based, ODK database that links information across the consortium. Beneficiary data is recorded and uploaded to a central server for easy access and analysis. This approach is both time-saving and environmentally friendly as it replaces paper copies of beneficiary data.

Supports Farmer Field Schools

All consortium members use the FAO Farmer Field School methodology for assisting farmers to improve agricultural production and productivity. FEED programming has sought to ensure 30% of FFS are “women only” while 70% remain “mixed”. The Farmer Field School is also the primary entry point for engagement on social issues (gender-based violence, conflict resolution & social cohesion, engagement with government, etc...)

Designs Innovative Training tools/modules -

FEED has produced a series of training tools / modules designed to equip staff and beneficiaries that will be rolled out in Year 2. Topics include:

- Humanitarian Accountability
- Business Skills
- Gender Strategy
- Community Owned Vulnerability And Capacity Assessment (COVACA)
- Peacebuilding (DNH)
- Power Mapping

INTERVENTIONS

(WHAT WE HAVE DONE SO FAR) - INTERVENTION HIGHLIGHTS FROM YEAR 1

- **Extension services** FEED provided beneficiaries with agriculture training through the use of agriculture extension workers. Support was provided in a variety of agriculture sectors including: Farmer Field School methodology, crop production, fish farming, farm tools management, and animal production, among others.
- **Post-harvest handling** In order to ensure crops are cared for properly after harvesting beneficiaries were trained to thresh, dry and winnow crops to minimize losses.
- **Market access** FEED aims to create linkages to introduce local farmers to their local markets and vendors in order to provide the farmers with opportunity to sell produce/products and begin to earn an income.
- **Peace building and Conflict resolution programming** FEED is working closely with local religious leaders, traditional leaders, and government officials to dialogue on the importance of promoting peace in their communities.
- **Partnership** The FEED project has launched a new initiative with the World Food Programme (WFP) whereby FEED links beneficiaries to the WFP food distribution program. The FEED project has also partnered with FAO to secure in-kind donations of agricultural inputs.



INCLUSIVE

The FEED program is defined by its equitable and inclusive agriculture and protection policies for women, children, and the most vulnerable. The project was designed with gender equality as a priority and has been aligned with the gender priorities of Global Affairs Canada and South Sudan's Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Cooperatives and Rural Development.

Strategic Gender-related Goals:

- To improve equitable participation of and enjoyment of benefits of food security among women, men, girls and boys. This includes fostering equitable access to rights, benefits, obligations and opportunities related to pillars of food security which include availability, access, utilization and stability.
- To reduce the persistence of deep-rooted social barriers to gender equality, specifically for engagement in food security. This includes raising awareness on the various forms of GBV and their consequences and improving access to services for GBV survivors through linkages with referral pathways.

The FEED project strives to ensure:

- women and girls, and men & boys are food secure
- women's workloads are reduced
- employability of women is improved
- women's groups are established
- women and men know about women's rights
- women and men understand the importance of peace building
- GBV prevention education is prioritized for both male and female beneficiaries





IMPACTFUL LESSONS LEARNED

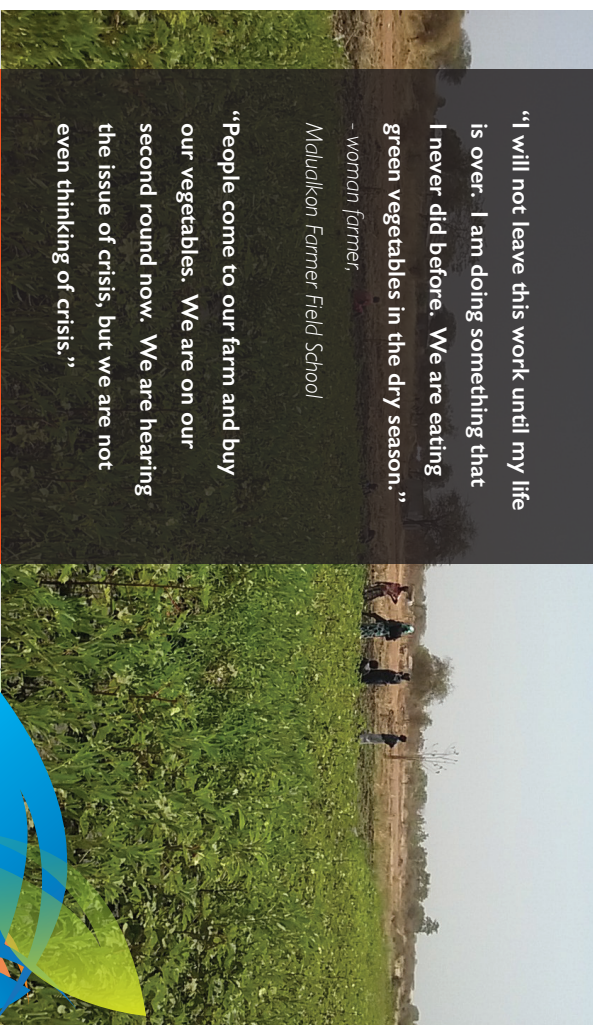
Mitigation vs Resilience

The FEED project has moved away from simply attempting to "mitigate" the effects of natural or human-made shocks to building up the resilience capacity of the beneficiary population. FEED strives to enhance the following:

- **Absorptive capacities:** the short term ability to handle a shock or its effects. In the sector of food security, this includes coping strategies, such as relying on extended family for additional food.
- **Adaptive capacities:** used on a longer term scale and support households to adjust to the conditions presented by shocks. In the case of FEED, an adaptive capacity would be the establishment and strengthening of community-based early warning systems.
- **Transformative capacities:** long term responses to the fundamental root causes of vulnerability, thus avoiding the shock altogether: One such transformative capacity is the sustained participation of farmers in market activity.

OVERCOMING CHALLENGES – FORGING AHEAD

THE CHALLENGE	THE SITUATION	THE RESPONSE
Gender: Women's Labour Burden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adding "project" related work on top of the existing day-to-day demands will over-burden women 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop activities and working schedules that will allow women to manage the labour burden at home and in the fields; • Provide shelters for the children at the fields so the women can bring their children with them to the field; • Provide lighter, more manageable farming tools for women
Project Messaging and Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low awareness of FEED project among participants and stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase awareness of project activities through intentional community interaction with project staff and regular briefings for stakeholders • Beneficiary participation increases accountability and positively promotes beneficiary ownership of project activities
Economic instability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange rates and purchasing power of the South Sudanese Pound (SSP) continue to fluctuate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continual monitoring of the exchange rates; periodic re-assessment of the impact to programmatic activities • Continual assessment of market prices for project related commodities
Conflict	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional flare-ups of internal conflict have sporadically displaced project participants and/or closed off project areas to humanitarian assistance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proactively monitoring security situations throughout the project areas relying on proven channels of security assessment (UNDDS) • Programmatic agility: FEED maintains the ability to adapt quickly to the changing environment and prioritizes staff safety
Climate change (Drought/rains)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unpredictable rain patterns have impacted agricultural productivity in South Sudan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FEED attempts to build farmer's capacity through education and training (crop selection, DRR, irrigation methods, appropriate farming methodology)

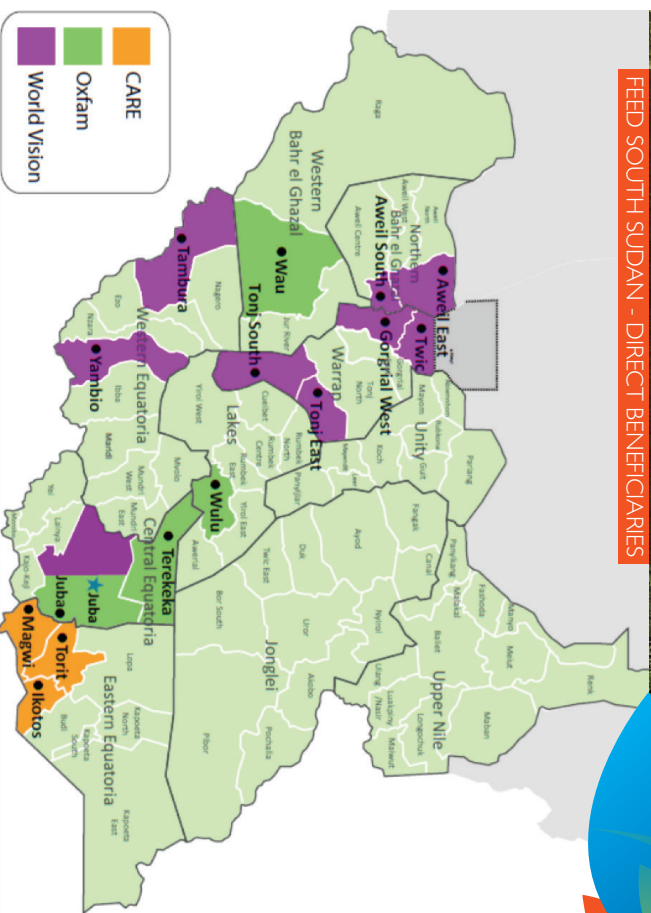


"I will not leave this work until my life is over. I am doing something that I never did before. We are eating green vegetables in the dry season."

– woman farmer,
Malukon Farmer Field School

"People come to our farm and buy our vegetables. We are on our second round now. We are hearing the issue of crisis, but we are not even thinking of crisis."

FEED SOUTH SUDAN - DIRECT BENEFICIARIES





For Children. For Change. For Life.

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