



---

## END OF PROJECT EVALUATION REPORT FOR BUILDING RESILIENCE THROUGH NUTRIENT-DENSE, PROFITABLE FARMING AND SANITATION FOR A HEALTHY AND ABUNDANT LIFE

---



**FARM STEW TIPPY TAP IN  
MAGWI 15 JULY 2022**

END OF PROJECT EVALUATION REPORT FOR BUILDING RESILIENCE THROUGH NUTRIENT-DENSE,  
PROFITABLE FARMING AND SANITATION FOR A HEALTHY AND ABUNDANT LIFE 2022

REPORT ACCEPTANCE AND APPROVAL BY FARM STEW TEAM

This report has been worked on with close collaboration with Farm Stew technical and senior management team, whose inputs and comments were incorporated in the field report after findings and draft evaluation report were shared with them. And their approval for the final report marks the end of the assignment, by signing this report the team confirmed the report meets their expectations and captured data about their project BRAL implemented in Magwi County of Eastern Equatoria State South Sudan.

Approved by



Executive Director  
Lasu Charles  
[lasu@farmstew.org](mailto:lasu@farmstew.org)  
Farm Stew South Sudan

# INTRODUCTION OF REPORT

## END OF PROJECT EVALUATION REPORT FOR BUILDING RESILIENCE THROUGH NUTRIENT-DENSE, PROFITABLE FARMING AND SANITATION FOR A HEALTHY AND ABUNDANT LIFE 2022

---

This is an end of project evaluation report which was compiled and submitted by [Amoria Business Development Enterprise ltd](#) a consultancy firm registered under law of South Sudan in the year 2018.

As Amoria team, we based our conclusions and recommendations of this report following the field visits of the evaluators to the project locations of Magwi county in Eastern Equatoria State South Sudan in the month of July 2022.

We visited the payams of Obbo, Omeo, Pageri, Magwi and Nimule where the beneficiaries from Mugali settled following their displacement in May 2022. During our field visits, different groups of people were interviewed to get information about the project and they include, County local authorities, Chiefs, payam administrators, women and youth leaders, Farm Stew field staffs and beneficiaries comprising of school children, households and farmer and VSLA groups. We also read all the activity reports provided by FS-SS of BRAL project which was implemented from June 2020 to June 2022. Hence this report is based on both secondary and primary data collected by experienced team.

We would also like to appreciate Farm Stew South Sudan team for considering us for this assignment and their cooperation during the assignment period, it was a very good working relationship where we got all the information we needed from them.



*Amoria Business Development Enterprise ltd  
Mauna Residential Area Plot No 72 Block III  
Juba South Sudan*

*Email: [amoria.abdel@outlook.com](mailto:amoria.abdel@outlook.com)*

*Tel: +211927683404*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>Section I: Executive Summary</i>	<i>vi</i>
<i>1.1 Section II: Introduction</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>2.0 Section III: Methodology</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>3.1 Section IV: Evaluation Finding Results</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>4.1 Section V: Evaluation Findings Analysis According to DAC Criteria</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>5.1 Section VI: Overall Performance of Project</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>5.2 Section VII: Lessons Learnt and Best Practices</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>5.3 Section VIII: Project Implantation gaps</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>6.1 Section IX: Evaluation Conclusions</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>7.1 Section X: Evaluation Recommendations</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>Section XI: Annexes.</i>	<i>23</i>

## LIST OF TABLES

<i>Table 1 showing activity results against planned outcomes .....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Table 2 showing percentage achievement .....</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Table 3 List of key informants .....</i>	<i>24</i>

## TABLE OF FIGURES

<i>Picture 1 showing soy beans produced by beneficiaries in Obbo Payam .....</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Figure 2 chart showing pads and Knickers distributed in schools.....</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Picture 3 showing a group with their ox-plough.....</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Figure 4 Chart showing resources allocation.....</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Picture 5 showing a team inspecting the solar dryer in Magwi Payam .....</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Chart 6 showing VSLA group saving under Farm Stew project in Magwi.....</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Figure 7 Bar chart showing varieties of vegetable seeds distributed .....</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Picture 8 showing VSLA group meeting .....</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Figure 9 Chart showing different trainings offered to beneficiaries.....</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>Picture 10 showing fruit seedlings distributed by Farm Stew growing in home of Margaret Laliki.....</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>Figure 11 Map showing the areas covered by the project.....</i>	<i>19</i>

## ACRONYM

---

FS-I	Farm Stew International
BRAL	Building Resilience and abundant Life
FS-SS	Farm Stew South Sudan
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
HHs	Households
SDG	UN Sustainable Development Goal
OD	Open defecation
IDP	Internally displaced Persons
COVID19	Corona Virus
WFP	World Food Program
VSLA	Village Saving and Loan Association
EES	Eastern Equatoria State
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
KII	Key Informant Interview

## Section I: Executive Summary

Farm Stew South Sudan implemented a project called Building Resilience through Nutrient-Dense, Profitable Farming and Sanitation for a Healthy and Abundant Life in Obbo, Mugali, Magwi and Pageri payams of Magwi County in Eastern Equatoria State South Sudan. With funding from Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and Farm Stew International, it's a two years project which started in June 2020 and ended June 2022. The purpose of the project was to equip families and communities to address the root causes of hunger, disease, and poverty. For a country like South Sudan, already contending with conflict, floods, the recent desert locust outbreak, drought, and economic crises, COVID-19 impacts will add to the challenges and likely increase the number of vulnerable people in the area

**Evaluation Findings:** The project targeted 1,400 households comprising of returnees, internally displaced persons (IDP), host communities, estimated to be 18,509 individuals consisting of 14,551 females representing 78.6% and 3,958 males representing 21.4% benefited from the various project activities. The activities included training of 8,490 in best agronomic practices, 1,090 families improved their diets through skills they acquired during balanced diet, meal preparation training, they learnt how to prepared balanced diet for their families. 1400 girls from Over 15 schools were given pads and knickers that helped them managed their menstrual issues and keep in schools. Vegetable preservation using solar dryer technology helped beneficiaries to dry vegetables for dry season usage. But before introduction of the dryers, beneficiaries' dry vegetables like okra, cowpeas, eggplants, and Jute mallow using natural sun heat which is done in open air affecting the quality and most of the vegetables go to waste because of too much rain. 16 farmer groups comprising of 25 members in each group were introduced to improved farming system through distribution of 16 pairs of oxen and ox-ploughs which were shared by 400 farmers. Training and formation of sixty (16) VSLA groups took place, each group is comprising of 25 members, various seeds distribution which include sukumawiki, Chinese cabbages, beetroots increase crop types grown and eaten by the farmers which added different types of vitamins in the diets of the farmers and earning income from the excess produce. And four (4) value addition machines which include three grinding mills and one soya bean processing machines were installed in Magwi county it has improved the quality of flour eaten by over 2000 households. Seven (7) new boreholes were installed and eight old boreholes were rehabilitated providing clean water for the communities in Magwi, Obbo, Omeo and Mugali payams

**Purposes of Evaluation:** The end of project evaluation assignment was to gauge into the project design, initiation and implementation process with focus on the relevancy, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, accountability, complementarity, impacts and the lessons learnt during the project life cycle. The end result evaluation will help the management of Farm Stew South Sudan to understand the lessons learnt and best practices of the project for future engagement

**Project Design:** The project design has incorporated most of the areas of livelihoods, to ensure that there was time and resources maximisation within the same project to help the beneficiaries in improving most of their lives' aspects. The project is developmental in nature, touching in all areas which are very essential for human development and decent lives that are complementing each other in their result achievement, and building the community resilience. However, due to limited funding, most of the core developmental activities were just introduced not comprehensively implemented to strengthen resilience and recovery of the community members

**OEDC/DAC Evaluation finding results: Relevance,** the project activities are in line with the issues affecting the communities of Magwi county, 99% of the indigenous of Magwi are subsistent



farmers, growing food crops such as maize, cassava, sweet potatoes, simsim, sorghum and groundnuts mainly for family consumptions, therefore introducing new crops which has potential of cash crop is very essential such as soya beans, beetroots, Chinese cabbages and sukumawiki. Providing plastic slabs for pit latrines was a good move in encouraging families to end open defecation (OD), improve family hygiene and sanitation. The value addition machines are helping the community members greatly, it ended the task of grinding flour using stones which takes a lot of time and improve the quality of flours beneficiaries are getting. While soya bean processing machine is helping beneficiaries to get soya porridge and milk which would be hard to do using stones or pounding motors. Ox-ploughs will make the subsistent farmers transit to commercial farming as group members are increasing gardens from half or 2 feddans to 3 and 5 feddans. Others were having gardens less than a feddan but after joining the groups, they have 1 or 2 feddans at least. And the increase in garden sizes will lead to increased harvest and improved family food security. Hence the activities were all relevant and appropriate to the context.

**Effectiveness:** The various activities implemented under Building Resilience were effective in addressing the issues of the community, provision of sanitary pads, knickers and sanitation education to school girls who are not having any means of livelihoods, and their parents are returnees was a well thought of initiative in promoting girl child education, teachers and pupils met during the evaluation expressed appreciation of the program of Farm Stew. People who are in the VSLA groups are having access to soft loans from their group monthly contributions that does not require legal collaterals and in the face of no financial institutions providing loan services in the areas the group raised over 18 million South Sudanese Pounds from the 16 VSLA groups. leading money to members to solve their issues of paying school fees for children and other family issues. The 400 farmers sharing 16 pairs of oxen and ox-ploughs are now increasing the sizes of their gardens in terms of acreage from 1 feddan to 3 feddans for individuals and 4 to 7 for groups. Farmers were tough new skills of managing pests in their gardens using local pesticide made from herds which are environmentally friendly. Vegetable consumptions used to be seasonal for most residents of Magwi county but with the solar dryers, beneficiaries can preserve vegetables which would have gone to waste and keep them for dry season

**Efficiency:** The project made use of the small resources to address most of the outcomes appropriately, the employment of community-based staffs was cost effective and employment of national staffs in high number reduced staffing cost. 78% of the project staff were South Sudanese national and 22% International staffs were paid under this project.

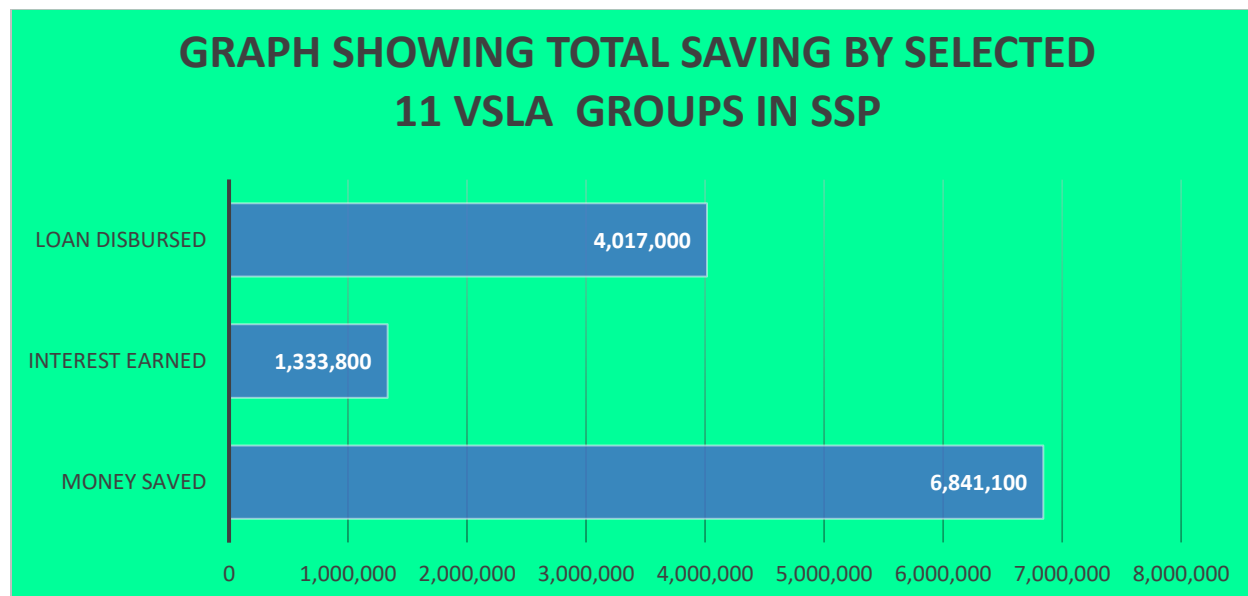
Two vehicles were dedicated for the operation of the project to ensure timely implementation of activities. In the budget allocation 83% of the budget went for program activities and program staffs and 17% went for operation cost and travels expenses respectively.

**Sustainability of the project activities:** Through the VSLA, members are borrowing and lending monies to the group members at low interest rate, increasing the group income and the same time supporting individual businesses, selected eleven VSLA groups had saving of 6,841,100 South Sudanese Pounds, equivalent of 10,525\$, a very good pool of fund, and they earned interest of 1,333,800 South Sudanese pounds equivalent to 2,052\$ using the current common market rate of



650 SSP per 1\$. One window Christina Adiya said she was depressed after losing her husband, not knowing what to do but when she joined VSLA group she was able to work hard a raise her weekly contributions and borrowing money from the group to pay school fees for her children.

Figure 1 sample of VSLA fund contribution and profit making



distribution of 1400 plastic slabs for pit latrines as most of the materials for constructions were gattered locally the beneficiaries will continue to use the plastic slabs for making more latrines one after the other since the plastic materials are long lasting, keeping OD checked in the areas, over 40 Households visited during the evaluation are all having pit latrines and tippy taps in use and the homes were free of open defecation. People who are sharing ox-ploughs are opening gardens ranging from 2 hectares to 5 hectares as opposite to having half or one hectare before when using hand hold hoes. “One man from Magwi central payam called Oyo Ben said he is old now and he cannot dig any more using hoe but joining farm group helped him to have food from his garden again through ox-plough sharing”. Using the group shared ox-ploughs and planning to buy more ox-ploughs for improving their farms since one ox-plough per group of 25 farmers is limited. Fruits trees planted will serve the families for many years and seeds from the trees will be shared with other community members increasing the tree kind and benefits multiplied over a long period of time. Skills acquired in meal and soybean products preparation are lifelong skills in the beneficiaries. Best agronomic practices skills will keep helping the beneficiaries who are mainly subsistent farmers striving for increased food output from their farmlands

**Project activities impacts on the beneficiaries:** Families have improved diet through soybean products which has very high nutritional values and earning money for the owners a kilogram of soybean was costing 600 SSP e.g. Betty Alal has 50kgs of soya she has prepared for the market, this will bring her 30,000 SSP about 50\$, other group had 400kgs of soya in their store ready for sale which will earn them 240,000 SSP about 387 dollars this shows soybeans is not consumed only at home but becoming one of the main cash crop for the communities in Magwi. And VSLA

groups are performing very well, the groups are charging 200 SSP interest rate for 1,000 SSP borrowed, sample of six (6) VSLA groups selected were found to have contributed 4,082,300 SSP in a period of 18 months generating 1,099,600 SSP as interest earned from lending to group members. And a kilo of soybeans is costing 600 SSP about 1\$ in Magwi during the evaluation time, some farmers are having over 400 kilos of soy beans in their stores. Farmers have new crops which they are growing in addition to the traditional crops enriching their diets and sources of income. Farmers were taken to Uganda to see large scale farming which led to change of attitudes towards farming, as they have seen the potential of doing farming as business. Hence cooperatives were formed to steer the objectives of farmers who want to graduate from subsistent farming to commercial farming. Planting of fruit trees are going to improve the diet of the beneficiaries, providing shades and improving the environment through production of oxygen is essential for human lives. Farmers are now using the knowledge of crop spacing, mulching and pest control using local materials to improve crop yields in their fields. Community members have access to the grinding mills which were installed through the project intervention improving quality of meals. Clean water is being provided to the communities where handpump boreholes were installed, promoting family hygiene and helping in domestic work.

**Lessons Learnt and best practices:** The lessons learnt that came out clearly include the following: exchange visit to Lugazi farm in Uganda helped members think differently about subsistent farming and practicing farming as business. Training members in meal preparation to ensure families have balanced diet has helped improved the health of the family members. Involvement of the local authority in Nimule in all the project activities has helped in easy mobilisation and awareness about the project as opposite to Magwi payam low involvement. Working with limited resources and bringing beneficiaries to share the little resources was a good idea although in one incident it led to misunderstanding between two groups sharing a pair of oxen and ox-plough. Employing staffs from within the locality has ease the mobilisation of beneficiaries and reduced cost of maintaining relocatable staffs.

**Implementation gaps:** There are a few gaps identified during the implementation which the evaluators believed impacted negatively on the project results outcomes and they include: Incorporation of so many developmental activities in the project design, although they complement each other, the resources were very limited to complete the activities with wider coverage among targeted beneficiaries.

**Overall Performance of Project:** Farm Stew building resilience project in Magwi County achieved most of its set project objectives as indicated in the results measurement against outcomes in table 1 and achievement level in table 2. Based on the findings, 90% of the project activities in the project log frame were successfully implemented in all the targeted locations as per the intended output results. Overall most of the planned activities were achieved at 100% with exception of FS-SS Families certification which is 90% achieved. Value addition businesses at 75%. These percentages are got using the total planned outputs results verse achieved output results. Therefore, overall activities implementation achievements stand at 91% this the average percentage from the different activities implemented. And the overall impact percentage of the project can only be estimated through looking at the different activities' outcomes at 65%. Since

some of the activities such as trees planted, out of over 10,000 fruits and wood tress planted, none of them has started giving fruits or wood for the beneficiaries, may take 1- 4 years more for beneficiaries to start reaping the benefits. Farmers growing soya bean at small scale of 1 or 2 feddans. The beneficiaries change of attitudes using Farm Stew family certification is gradual transformation overtime. Clear marketing linkage for farmers' produce needs to established since some farmers having produce are still looking for markets. Increment of farm sizes is still low since 25 farmers sharing one pair of oxen, and 400 farmers benefiting from the 16 ox-ploughs out of 8,653 farmers trained in best agronomic practices. 16 VSLA groups formed involving about 500 trained beneficiaries in Village saving out of 8,490 total beneficiaries trained in VSLA. So, the well accomplished tasks plus the ones completed but their outcomes are yet to be realised are used to estimate the percentage of outcomes levels brought by quick impact components like vegetable growing and consumption by farmers, clean water provision for communities, tippy taps usage to prevent COVID19 spread and improving home sanitations and hygiene. Making environment friendly pesticides to control pests at zero cost, best agronomic practices training and skills applications demonstrated by the farmers and latrines slabs which have improved the home hygiene and sanitation ending open defecation among the targeted beneficiaries so more time and works are needed to reach 80 to 100% impact achievements through the activities.

**Evaluation conclusion:** All the activities under BRAL were complementing each other in improving the lives of the beneficiaries and steering them to self-reliance, clean, healthy families and economic independency. Most of the planned activities were achieved as per the project set objectives at an overall average percentage of 91%, although real change in attitudes, behaviours and economic situation among the beneficiaries can be estimated at 65% for the project. In the view of the evaluators, Farm Stew South Sudan laid a solid foundation for real agricultural reformation in the county. But due to the limited funding and time period it could not performed reformatory activities involving most of the targeted HHs.

Therefore, following this project with similar activities building on the work done under BRAL through a multi-year agricultural project will see huge transitions of subsistent farmers to commercial farmers with high standards of family health transformation, change of behaviours and attitudes for positive living among the people of Magwi county. Future project of this kind if incorporate with small grants for businesses, it will elevate other farmers to be middle men in marketing farm produce hence creating markets for smaller farmers.

**Recommendations:** The recommendations are categorised as beneficiaries' and evaluators' recommendation; Beneficiaries were thankful to Farm Stew for the initiative which help them in many ways such as installation of boreholes, grinding mills and soybean processing machine, solar vegetable dryers, trainings in best agronomic practices, introduction of new vegetable seeds and they were happy for the quality seeds provided which germinated well compared to seeds distributed by other agencies which did not germinate. They request for more oxen and ox-plough distribution since few groups are sharing the 16 pairs provided under the intervention. In Opari they are requesting for small business grants and formation of VSLA groups. Farmers with stocks of farm produces are asking for market linkage. In payam of Omeo beneficiaries are requesting for

grinding mill. Farmers also recommended distribution of maize seeds, beans, groundnuts and simsim which are common crops consumed by the residents of Magwi.

Evaluation team has also made several observations and recommended they include the following: FS-SS invested heavily in training of beneficiaries in best agronomic practices which is very important for a farming community like that of Magwi county. Training households in meal preparation and ensuring balanced diet is a unique way of eliminating diseases related to poor feeding. Prioritizing activities in the face of funding challenge is very important for quality and quantity services maximisation. Change of attitudes and habits are slow progress events which cannot be achieved within a cycle of one project with short period of time. Therefore, extending the project for 3 to 5 years will make more changes visible and wider in scope. Incorporating farmers and VSLA groups with small business grant will elevate the farmers to a high-level creating market since farmers will produce in large quantity attracting agricultural produce traders in the area

## 1.1 Section II: Introduction

The end of project evaluation assignment was to gauge into the project design, initiation and implementation process with focus on the relevancy, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, impacts and the lessons learnt during the project life cycle. The end result evaluation will help the management of Farm Stew South Sudan to understand the lessons learnt and best practices of the project for future engagement. How to address challenges encountered, in future similar project in the same locations. While taking note of the gap between planned targets and the achieved results of the project under evaluation which is Building Resilience through Nutrient-Dense, Profitable Farming and Sanitation for a Healthy and Abundant Life project implemented in Magwi County Eastern Equatoria State South Sudan from June 2020 to June 2022.

### Key Project Information

Project Name	Building Resilience through Nutrient-Dense, Profitable Farming and Sanitation for a Healthy and Abundant Life in Magwi County
Project Location	Magwi, Obbo, and Mugali Payams. Magwi County EES South Sudan
Organization Name	FARM STEW South Sudan (FS-SS)
Funding Sources	Swiss Development Cooperation and FARM STEW International
Project Type	Developmental Project
Project Duration	2 years
Project Start	June 2020 to June 2022
Evaluation Type	End of project evaluation

## 1.2 Background Information and Context

The purpose of this project is to equip families and communities to address the root causes of hunger, disease, and poverty. For a country like South Sudan, already contending with conflict, floods, the recent desert locust outbreak, drought, and economic crises, COVID-19 impacts will add to the challenges and likely increase the number of vulnerable people in the area. Thus, this intervention is one way of alleviating this burden in Magwi County and creating a model that can be scaled.

Many subsistence farmers populate Magwi County of the Eastern Equatoria State of South Sudan. Many of these people are vulnerable groups made up of returning refugees and some internally displaced persons (IDPs) due to the recent long-standing conflicts in most parts of South Sudan. Women and children are impacted disproportionately when food production is tenuous and are particularly vulnerable. Many children are found to be malnourish in the area.

The World Food Program and others are addressing the malnutrition problem by providing fortified soy and corn blend for acutely malnourished people. This program is laudable for providing food for the hungry, but it does not solve the long-term problem of food shortage and malnutrition. While FS-SS will refer malnourished children to clinics where WFP rations and treatment is available, we also seek to address this problem with training to improve crop production, planting diverse crops, increasing field sizes through provision of oxen and ox-ploughs to beneficiaries and introducing soy products to increase protein. Training in soy production and

processing is based on training from the National Soy Research Laboratory at the University of Illinois in the USA. FARM STEW's techniques have been modified for the context of rural South Sudan. Improving the health household hygiene through trainings, providing menstrual sanitary pads to school girls, forming Village savings and Loan Associations in the three payams of Obbo, Magwi and Mugali respectively

### **1.3 Purpose of the project**

FARM STEW South Sudan has a goal of equipping 1,400 households in Greater Magwi County to address hunger, disease, and poverty through hands-on training. FARM STEW South Sudan impacts families with training in the areas of Farming, Attitude, Rest, Meals, Sanitation, Temperance, Enterprise, and Water

### **1.4 Beneficiary composition for the project**

The project for building Resilience through Nutrient-Dense, Profitable Farming and Sanitation for a Healthy and Abundant Life in Magwi County target 1400 households in Obbo, Magwi and Mugali payams of Magwi county Eastern Equatoria State. Targeting mainly returnees, internally displaced persons (IDP), women and children all affected by the current instability in the region and the country at large. A total of 18,509 participants took part in the project activities, comprising of 14,551 females representing 78.6% and 3,958 males representing 21.4%

### **1.5 Project activities**

The project was mainly focused on farming activities aimed at restoring the livelihoods and dignity of the people following recurring insecurity, COVID19 and Locusts' invasion of the area. And providing health messages, facilities to the most vulnerable members of the community. The activities included

Equipping farmers with completed pairs of oxen and ox-ploughs to increase the field sizes. Under this activity sixteen pairs oxen were procured with ox-plough supplied to the farmers' groups

Improving nutritional values of the people, 444 trainees were trained in the nutritional value of soy, making soy products, and soy management and storage

Improving the hygiene of the school going girls, 1400 girls were provided menstrual hygiene materials and education in selected schools of Obbo, Magwi and Mugali payams

Increasing the varieties of vegetables in the area, different varieties of vegetable seedlings have been shared out in Obbo, Mugali and Magwi Payams. Including seedlings for fruit trees were distributed to the house holds

### **1.6 Overall Goal of the project**

FARM STEW South Sudan's overall objective is to improve the health and well-being of poor families and vulnerable people in South Sudan by sharing the recipe of abundant life. The FARM STEW recipe is an acronym for (F) Farming, (A) Attitude, (R) Rest (for people and the land), (M) Meals (whole food, plant-based), (S) Sanitation, (T) Temperance, (E) Enterprise, (W) Water. Under

this grant, the organization will focus its efforts on the following specific objectives while not neglecting the overall FS-SS goal of holistic community development.

### 1.7 Key Project Objectives/Outcomes

**Farming:** to increase the variety of vegetables and legumes that the 1,400 farming HH plant as well as to increase the acreage (feddans) of land they plant by June 2022.

**Enterprise:** to strengthen the ability of the 1,400 HH to save and invest by integrating VSLAs and cooperatives in the farming groups by June 2021.

**Sanitation:** to strengthen COVID – 19 awareness and ways of disease prevention in the project area amongst the 1,400 farming HH by August of 2020 with ongoing education to prevent all related respiratory infections by June 2022.

**Meals and Temperance:** to increase the amount and variety of vegetables and legumes consumed and to strengthen the knowledge of meal preparation and temperance to fight diseases and malnutrition for the 1,400 farming HH by June

### 1.8 Project Outputs

- 1.1 100% HH are taught the elements of certified FS homes.
- 1.2. 90% of the farming households have increased crop variety being planted.
- 1.3. 90% of the farming households have been taught techniques of vegetable planting.
- 1.4. 70% of the farming households have received trees for their homesteads
- 1.5 70% of the farming households have increased acreage being planted and/or improved production.
- 2.1 60% of farming households are saving money each month.
- 2.2 100% of the farming households are invited to be part of a cooperative group.
- 2.3 90% of the farming households are participating in value addition
- 3.1 100% of farming households have a tippy tap
- 3.2 100% of the farming households have participated in COVID-19 awareness training.
- 3.3 80% of the farming households are practicing hand washing correctly as part of COVID-19 awareness.
- 3.4 90% of the farming households are practicing good sanitation practices such as having latrines and keeping their environment clean and safe.
- 4.1 100% of the farming households have received training in cooking.
- 4.2 100% have received training on attitude change.



4.3 100% of the farming households have participated in seminars on temperance.

### Purposes of the Evaluation

The assignment is to audit the activities of Building Resilience through Nutrient-Dense, Profitable Farming and Sanitation for a Healthy and Abundant Life in Magwi County project, starting from process of the project design, implementation and the impacts of the intervention on the target beneficiaries using the DAC criteria of, relevancy, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, impacts, lesson learnt replication and scalability to understand the whole process of the project life cycle and the result outcomes. And the end line information will help the management of FARM STEW to make informed decisions while engaging in similar projects the near future in the County

## 2.0 Section III: Methodology

The team collected both secondary and primary data on Building Resilience through Nutrient-Dense, Profitable Farming and Sanitation for a Healthy and Abundant Life project to ensure adequate information for right decision making, these included desk review of project documents such as proposal, quarterly reports, interviewing staffs, women leaders, line ministry of agriculture staff at county level, chiefs, relief and rehabilitation commission, observation of visible impacts of the project in the areas under the study, testimonies from households and stakeholders who benefited from Building Resilience through Nutrient-Dense, Profitable Farming and Sanitation for a Healthy and Abundant Life project

### 2.1.0 Data and Information Sources

The data for the evaluation came from the proposal, log frames, training reports, quarterly monitoring and evaluation reports, data from field activities in Magwi, Obbo, Opari and Mugali, beneficiaries' testimonies, county local authorities and stakeholders. external information from websites, <https://unmiss.unmissions.org/improved-relations-between-madi-community-and-armed-forces>

<https://www.farmstew.org/about-us/theory-for-change>

<https://www.farmstew.org/about-us/objectives>

<https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/sites/www.humanitarianresponse.info/files/assessments/avsi-2020-magwi-multi-sector-household-survey-report-final-draft.pdf>

<https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/migration/jo/Eastern--Equatoria-Consult-May-12.pdf>

<https://reliefweb.int/report/south-sudan/escalating-feuds-between-cattle-keepers-and-farmers-magwi-lead-volatile-situation>

### 2.1.1 Methods

Structured and semi structured questionnaires targeting households of FS-SS Building Resilience Through Nutrient-Dense, Profitable Farming and Sanitation for A Healthy and Abundant Life project staffs and stakeholders from the project areas, documents reviews, focus group discussions and observation were used. To collect information from key informants, project beneficiaries and partners to ascertain the project achievement levels and impacts it has created among the beneficiaries. Visible evidences of the project through available structures on the ground. Through the employment of these methodologies mentioned here, the assignment followed the project planning and implementation processes to document the end result achievements both intended and unintended nature.

### 2.1.2 Selection of Interviewees

The sampling procedure for key informants, case studies and focus groups was purposive while that for the survey was statistically significant. Both were done in consultation with FS-SS. A form of non-probability sampling in which the individuals with adequate information or cases were included in the sampling framework used by the consultants was applied. The sample size of the study was estimated to be 220 respondents, 40 key informants from project locations, stakeholders and FS-SS staffs involved in the project management, 8 focus group discussions, were held from three payams of Magwi, Obbo and Mugali comprising 15 members per group, 60 households were interviewed

### 2.1.3 Evaluation Criteria

To analyzed the groundwork that was put in place for the implementation of the Building Resilience Through Nutrient-Dense, Profitable Farming and Sanitation for a Healthy and Abundant Life project including but not limited to procurement of project activity materials and supplies, staff recruitment, needs assessment, design, trainings and capacity building activities using OEDC/ DAC Criteria to analyzed the;

**Relevance:** How relevant was this project to the context of the underlining problems facing the targeted people or it was out of context remotely designed not matching to the issues on the ground. This question was seeking facts to indicate that the intervention had met the needs of the people affected and through the implementation of this project there was a certain degree of relieve from their suffering which was brought about by the problem that led to the project design.

**Effectiveness:** How effective were the activities of BRAL in solving or reducing the impacts of the issues affecting the targeted population through its intervention, was there relieve of suffering or not? This was done to examine appropriateness of the set objectives and the activities implemented to ensure positive results were realized in the most reliable ways

**Efficiency:** How well were the project resources used for the benefits of the project beneficiaries, through proper staffing, control of money to ensure project activities takes the highest percentage of the budget. The evaluation captured the proper use of resources for achieving the intended project objectives, this includes staff recruitment, procurement and use of available resources

**Sustainability,** What mechanisms were put in place by the project design to ensure the project activities and impacts will continue to exist beyond the life span of the project within the communities of intervention. The long-term future of the project was examined to ascertain the continuity of the set activities beyond the projected period of the project activities. And seeking change of attitudes by beneficiaries to own and manage the resources established in absence of FS-SS

**Lessons learnt:** What were the positive and negative lessons learnt during the implementation of the project that will help in shaping existing or upcoming projects in the near future

**Impacts of the project on beneficiaries:** What are the short- and long-term changes that will result from the intervention of the project among the beneficiaries. The assessment captured the impacts created by the project intervention both positive and negative, lesson learnt during implementation while noting intended and unintended outcomes which resulted from the intervention. And how the situation would have been if there was no intervention under the BRAL project

**Replications and scalability:** What were the best practices that led to successful completion of the project activities and overall achievement of the project goals, that can be replicated or scaled up in existing or future projects. The assessment captured the best practices which can be replicated in future programming in similar project or be step up in the future interventions

**Complementary and coherence :** How were the activities of the project complementing each other, did the project complement other FS-SS projects implemented in the same area or at country and global stage what developmental goals was the project complementing and what were the synergies with other agencies operating in the same area what previous or existing projects of Islamic Relief South Sudan is the BRAL project complementing through its activities, what other organizations' works are the activities of BRAL complementing in the areas of intervention.

**Accountability:** How accountable was FS-SS in implementing the project of BRAL, were the community, stakeholders, partners and donor given information to show transparency in the operations of the project by implementing staffs and senior management of FS-SS.

#### 2.1.4 Scope of The Evaluation

the evaluation assignment is specifically to audit the project activities implemented under Building Resilience through Nutrient-Dense, Profitable Farming and Sanitation for a Healthy and Abundant Life in Magwi County. Implemented by FS-SS in the payams of Magwi, Obbo, Opari, Mugali and Pageri respectively so all the data collected are pertaining to the activities in the payams mentioned here in.

#### 2.1.5 Limitations of The Evaluation

The information is basically from areas where Building Resilience through Nutrient-Dense, Profitable Farming and Sanitation for a Healthy and Abundant Life project was implemented, it may not represent the general agricultural and nutritional situations in Magwi county and EES State as a whole.

### 3.1 Section IV: Evaluation Finding Results

Table 1 showing activity results against planned outcomes

MEASURING ACTIVITY RESULTS AGAINST OBJECTIVES/OUTCOMES SET IN THE LOG FRAME		
WHAT ACTUAL HAPPENED?	WERE THERE DIFFERENCES, IF SO WHY?	WHAT COULD FS-SS HAVE DONE DIFFERENTLY?
<p><b>Outcome1: Farming,</b> to increase the variety of vegetables and legumes that the 1,400 farming HH plant</p> <p>New vegetables were introduced in the areas of project these includes beetroots, soybean, Chinese cabbage and sukumawiki. Ox-ploughs were distributed to farmers to enable them grow more vegetables and other food crops. 8653 people were trained in best agronomic practices, people were trained in food preparation and eating balanced diet</p>	<p>People's habits of eating have changed as a result of introducing new vegetables and processing soy milk, porridge which were new to the community. 16 pairs of oxen and ox-ploughs were distributed to 400 farmers increasing the sizes of gardens they are having. People trained in best agronomic practices are improving the yields of their crops per hectare. Introducing tree planting for both fruits and shades will improve the environment in the county as trees are water catchment materials</p>	<p>The number of farmers per ox-plough of 25 members is more, it should have been 5 to 10 people per group for maximization. The current scenario means a member gets one chance for use of ox-plough per month. FS-SS should have also promoted the commonly eaten or grown crops by the people such as beans, groundnuts, simsim and maize since these are crops also doing well in the area and consumed all over the county, through seeds distribution of these crops</p>
<p><b>Outcome 2. Enterprise,</b> to strengthen the ability of the 1,400 HH to save and invest by integrating VSLAs and cooperatives in the farming groups by June 2021</p> <p>8490 youth, women and men were trained in Village saving and Loan Association in the three payams. And 16 VSLA groups were formed in Magwi and Obbo. Several beneficiaries were trained in commercial farming and given opportunities for exchange visit to Uganda. 3 cooperatives were formed and 4 value addition businesses were established in Magwi county</p>	<p>8,490 beneficiaries have the ideas and skills of managing VSLA groups and 16 groups of VSLA comprising of 25 members per group totaling to 400 members were formed currently operating in Magwi, Obbo and Mugali. 3 cooperatives were formed helping farmers to seek for market jointly reducing challenges of individual marketing. 4 value addition businesses of 3 grinding mills and one soy processing mills were established improving the quality of food for the communities where the machines are installed</p>	<p>If the VSLA element can be incorporated with market linkage and small grants for businesses, it will lead to commercialization of the subsistence farming. Leading to self-reliance, family, and community developments. If the number of valued addition machines can be increased it will help most of the beneficiaries to get access currently a place like Omeo 9 Kilometers away from Magwi has no grinding mill.</p>

<p><b>Outcome 3. Sanitation, to strengthen COVID – 19 awareness and ways of disease prevention in the project area amongst the 1,400 farming HH</b></p>	<p>1400 tippy taps were introduced to 1400 HHs during the time of COVID19 leading to prevention of the virus. 1400 pit latrines slabs were distributed, families dug and constructed pit latrines leading to clean homes and ending open defecation (OD) in the community. over 1400 school girls in about 15 schools received sanitary pods and knickers, that helped them managed their personal hygiene and kept in school without fear of menstrual management stress due to poor facilities or lack of resources</p>	<p>Most of the tippy tap jerrycan got broken due to excessive heat, these taps could have been constructed under small shades to protect them from heat. Most of the pit latrines were constructed using local materials and majority have broken down, in future introduction of stronger materials with subsidized price will improve the quality of the pit latrines</p>
<p>1400 tippy taps were made in 1400 households, 1400 pit latrine slabs were distributed to beneficiaries and 1400 school girls received pads and knickers in over 15 primary and secondary schools</p>		
<p><b>Outcome 4. Meals and Temperance, to increase the amount and variety of vegetables and legumes consumed and to strengthen the knowledge of meal preparation and temperance to fight diseases and malnutrition for the 1,400 farming HH by June</b></p>	<p>Vegetable preservation led to consumption of vegetables throughout the year by the beneficiaries compared to seasonal access to vegetables by the people before intervention of BRAL. 1,090 Families were trained in meal preparation and ensuring families have balanced diet leading to healthy families and prevention of malnutrition and related health issues in children and adults</p>	<p>This component needs to be done over a long period of time because its success also comes with the increased family income or agricultural outputs without sufficient income the ideas cannot be practiced by trainees</p>
<p>1090 Families were trained in meal preparation, Soy milk and porridge were introduced, and 3549 beneficiaries were trained in temperance,</p>		

### 3.1.2 Project Achievements

There were several activities planned under the project of Building Resilience through Nutrient-Dense, Profitable Farming and Sanitation for a Healthy and Abundant Life in Magwi County in the period of the two years and the table shows the achievement levels of each activity

Table 2 showing percentage achievement

ACTIVITY ACHIEVEMENT LEVELS FOR BRAL PROJECT ACTIVITIES JUNE 2020 to June 2022						
SNO	Activity	Planned outcome	Achieved out put	Achievement Percentage	Miss target	above target
1	Tippy Taps and Latrines.	980	1400	143%		420
2	VSLA groups to be formed	16	16	100%		
3	Cooperatives groups	3	3	100%		
4	Valued added businesses	6	4	67%	2	
5	Menstrual hygiene kits for school (1400 girls)	1400	1400	100%		
6	Pairs of oxen and ox-ploughs	16	16	100%		-
7	Tree Nurseries beds	6	4	75%		
8	Basic FS training targeting 1400 HHs	16	16	100%		
9	Farmers Field Schools	3	3	100%		
10	FS-SS certification	980	885	90%	95	
11	New borehole installation	7	7	100%		
12	Rehabilitated Boreholes	8	8	100t%		
13	Distribution of Plastic slabs	1400	1400	100%		

### 3.1.3 Current Situation in The Project Implementation Sites

The beneficiaries in Magwi county are currently in between a season of no harvest and last food in store finished, the harvest season for the crops are towards the end of July and parts of August, many beneficiaries met by the consultancy team expressed need for food aid for a period of one month to cover the season gap of no food. Mugali payam has a different scenario, all the population of Mugali were displaced by the fighting which took place between two cattle raider groups in May 2022. Currently the residents of Mugali are in Internally Displaced Persons centre in Anzara Nimule payam. They are requesting for NFI and food aid to help them cope with the current situation in which they are.

### 3.1.4 Project Design

The project design has incorporated most of the areas of livelihoods, to ensure that they maximised time and resources within the same project and help the beneficiaries in improving most of their lives' aspects. The project included, enterprise idea through Village Saving and Loan Association to enable the people come together and create a pool of fund to enhance the group members' business activities through provision of loans. Provision of ox-ploughs to farm groups, providing sanitary pads in schools, vegetable preservations using solar dryers. Introduction of soya bean

processing to reduce malnutrition among the selected households, tree planting and distribution of seeds among others.

**Insufficient fund to achieve substantial results** of each component of the project activity under BRAL, as such most of the activities were just introduced to few beneficiaries or services provided were very limited given the number of 1400 households targeted, this is true mainly with valve addition inputs only four were provided, ox-ploughs 16 pairs supplied, seven new and eight rehabilitated handpump boreholes installed in the three payams of Magwi

### 3.1.5 Project Implementation Challenges

1. Poor road conditions, especially from Magwi to Obbo, affected the operation and made other villages like Alia inaccessible when it rained heavily. This affected accessibility, implementation of planned activities, and community participation.
2. Unreliable rainfall patterns made agriculture difficult. The rain started in April, but in June, it was very dry.
3. Community lifestyles and funerals affected some training schedules.
4. from initial stage of the project, there was issue of Covid 19 which made movement and training difficult.
5. The insecurity (cattle raiding and misunderstanding between cattle keepers and farmers in Magwi County) toward the end of the project also affected the project activities

## 4.1 Section V: Evaluation Findings Analysis According to DAC Criteria

### 4.1.1 Relevance

**Ox-plough provision.** Majority of the people in Magwi county are subsistence farmers growing food in small gardens using the hand tools like hoes, pangas and axes not enough to provide the family and supply to the market. But providing them with ox-ploughs is a very good idea of increasing the sizes of their farms so ox-ploughs are very relevant in this context

**Introduction of soy beans and soy processing education,** many families are making soy porridges for their families given the nutritional values in the soy bean many families were able to prevent malnutrition in their families leading to healthy families. Addressing the SDG goal 3 good health for all. And soy is also a commercial crop which will generate income for the families for buying what they do not grow or make hence improving family health and living conditions

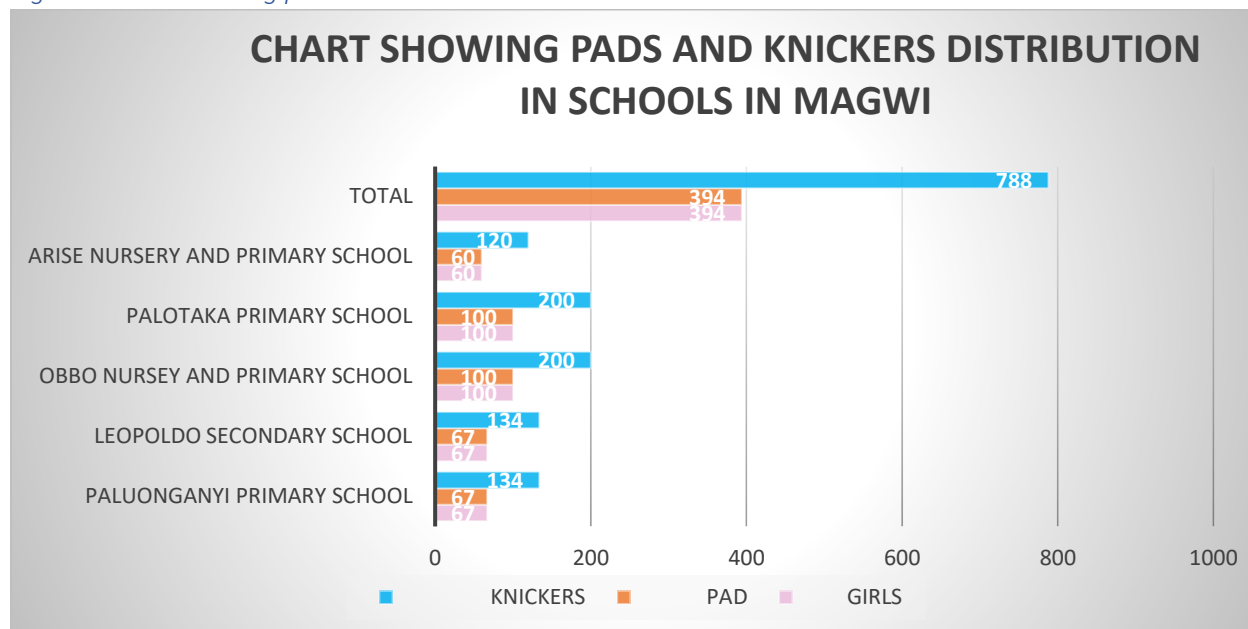


Picture 1 showing soy beans produced by beneficiaries in Obbo Payam



Distribution and Sanitary Pads education in Primary schools, the adolescent age is very challenging for young girls who are starting to get their menstrual period, many girls drop out of school during this period of their lives. Because they cannot afford or get appropriate materials to manage their menstrual cycles. Most of them tend to remain home missing lessons in schools leading to poor performance eventually dropping out of school. Therefore, this component of project is very essential and important in promoting girl child education.

Figure 2 chart showing pads and Knickers distributed in schools



Training in raising fruit trees and other trees is away of improving the diets of the people in the near future by having access to fruits, which are full of different vitamins essential for building body immunity against diseases. Over 8,600 fruit Trees were distributed and 7,525 woods and medical trees were also given to the beneficiaries, they will improve the environment giving abundant oxygen for all the living things and enriching the ecosystem of the places

#### 4.1.2 Effectiveness

**Ox-plough and oxen distributions**, the farmers who have been using their hand-held hoes to cultivate their gardens, which were small in sizes generally half or 2 feddans are now using ox-ploughs tripling the sizes of their farms, producing enough food to feed their families and sell the surplus to acquire things they do not produce such as salt, sugar, soap and other family needs

*Picture 3 showing a group with their ox-plough*



**Formation of three cooperative society groups**, this improved the chances of the farmers in marketing their surplus agricultural products, by seeking for market as a group and sharing cost of transportation which would have been shouldered by individual farmers

**Hand pump boreholes**, the 7 newly installed handpump boreholes are providing beneficiaries around the water sources with clean drinking water and for domestic use, such as washing utensils, clothes hence improving family health through prevention of hygiene related diseases.

**Sanitary Pad and knicker distribution**, 1,314 sanitary materials provided for the school girls helped the children to manage their personal hygiene and attend classes without fear or absenting from school because of menstrual period, increasing level of class attendance which is key for good performance. And the training they got in hygiene management will help them to continue managing their health affairs independently.

**Soy milk and porridge proves to be effective in preventing malnutrition**, among the families of farmers processing and using the soy beans products in their families' diets, hence improved family health

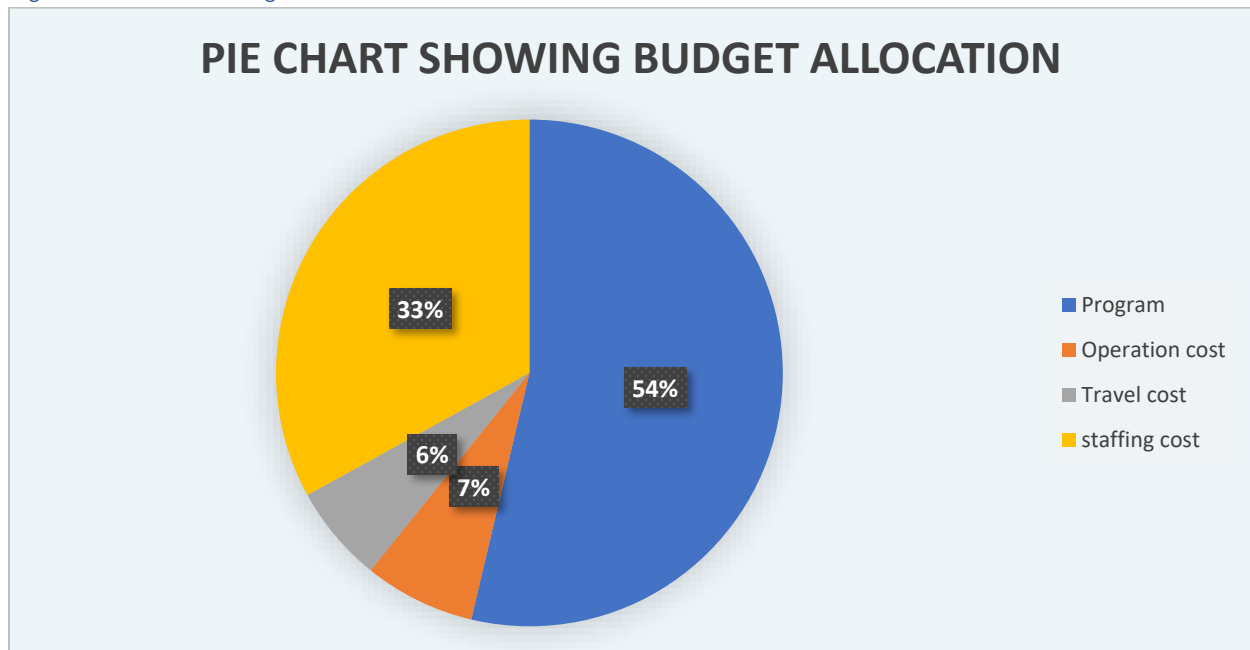
#### 4.1.3 Efficiency and Value for Money

**Local recruitment**, most of the field staffs were locally recruited from the community members, leading to reduced staffing cost for the project while more money is used for program activities. The staffing composition is 78% South Sudanese nationals in the field and Juba office while 22% international staff supporting the project remotely.

**Sufficient means of logistics**, the project has two vehicles from the Farm Stew international and Swiss Agency of Development and cooperation which enable the field staffs to implement the project activities in time

Budget allocation for the project activities, the chart below shows most of the monies were allocated for project activities and project staffs over the two-year period.

*Figure 4 Chart showing resources allocation*



As indicated on the chart above most of the project budget were allocated to program activities and program staff salaries about seven Field and Juba based staffs dedicated to this particular project. While admin and travel costs associated with the project took 17% of the total budget. However, if this project was to be implemented in one-year period, the organisation would have saved 108,840\$ increasing number of beneficiaries that will be reached in the target areas

#### 4.1.4 Projects Effects or Impacts on Beneficiaries' Lives

**Providing Three grinding mills in Magwi, Mugali and Obbo** are helping so many people to have their grains grinded at affordable prices and the same time very close to them instead of using grinding stones or traveling far distances for grinding. This also improve the quality of flour and saving time of the local population

**Farmers were trained in vegetable preservation** for dry season using the solar dryers, increasing the intake of vegetable in the area to be all year rounds hence quality of lives is improved. Instead of having green vegetables only during rainy season as was the case in the past and currently among households not reached by the project



*Picture 5 showing a team inspecting the solar dryer in Magwi Payam*

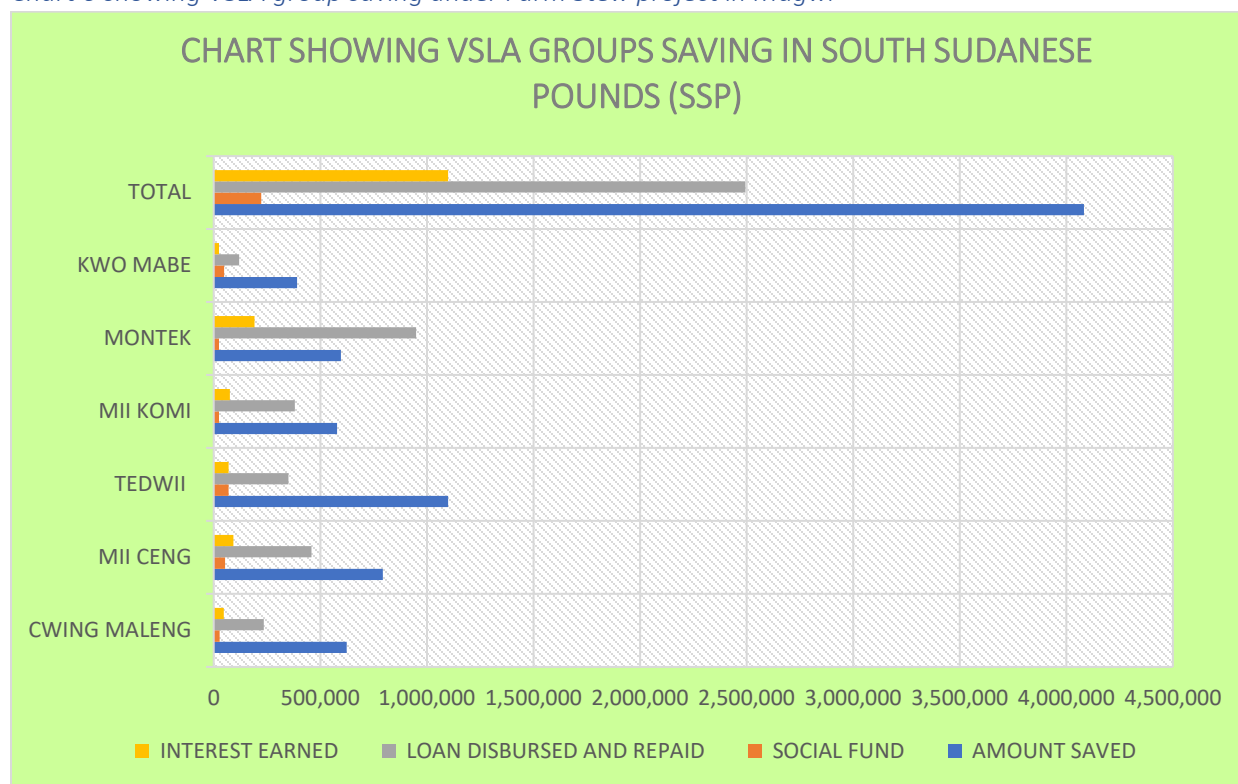


**Improved home hygiene in 1400 households**, many of the beneficiaries were trained on home hygiene management and were provided with pit latrine construction materials mainly plastic slabs, this helped families to keep their homes clean preventing all hygiene related diseases

**Increased food in the families**, farmers who were involved in soy bean processing, have increased their food intakes with new crop because soybean was not commonly used by the homes in Magwi county but with introduction of soy mill, farmer families are getting porridges and soy milk which more nutritious compared to maize and sorghum porridges they used to take.

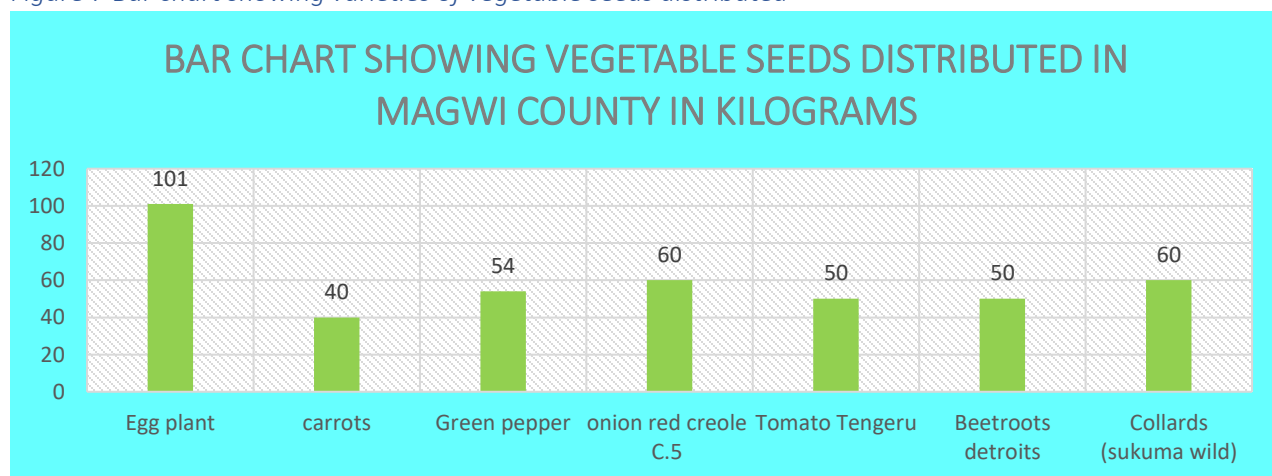
**The VSLA group members are now having access to soft loan**, without collateral to start businesses or increase their farm sizes leading to increase food production in their homes hence healthy family and improved family income.

Chart 6 showing VSLA group saving under Farm Stew project in Magwi



Families having varieties of vegetables for consumption, the families were introduced to new vegetables to supplement the commonly grown vegetables by the indigenous people, leading to consumptions of various green vegetables with different vitamin contains leading to healthy bodies such new vegetables are the introduction of Chinese cabbage, beetroots and sukumawiki

Figure 7 Bar chart showing varieties of vegetable seeds distributed



Absolute behaviour changed among the youth in the project areas. Before the implementation of the project, youth resorted to heavily drinking and involved in practicing criminal acts in their communities. Through the activities targeting alcohol consumption reduction among the youth,

the implementation polished the behaviour of the youth which reduced the criminal acts among the communities

**The project beneficiaries received training in preparing different types of foods**, such as preparing milk, eggs, chapatti, porridge out of soya and different types of green vegetables. These skills reduced malnutrition in the family

#### 4.1.5 Accountability and Learning

**End of project evaluation**, the incorporation of the end of project evaluation is a sense of accountability to the community and donor community. As the third-party will bring out the work done and the gaps of implementation out clearly.

**Distribution monitoring committee Desk**, Farm Stew with the support of local authority formed monitoring committees to oversee the distributions process. The committees were formed from members of youth, women, people with disabilities, faith groups to attend to the distribution sites.

**Compliant Response Mechanism desks**, were set to attend to beneficiaries who have problems or questions to ask, this promote community engagement and accountability to beneficiaries. Before any distribution start, the project staffs introduced to beneficiaries what items to be distributed, what quantity per household. The distribution committees then take over the distributions making sure all registered households received their ration and the complaint desk registered all form of complaints to be addressed for the next distributions

#### 4.1.6 Sustainability and Replicability

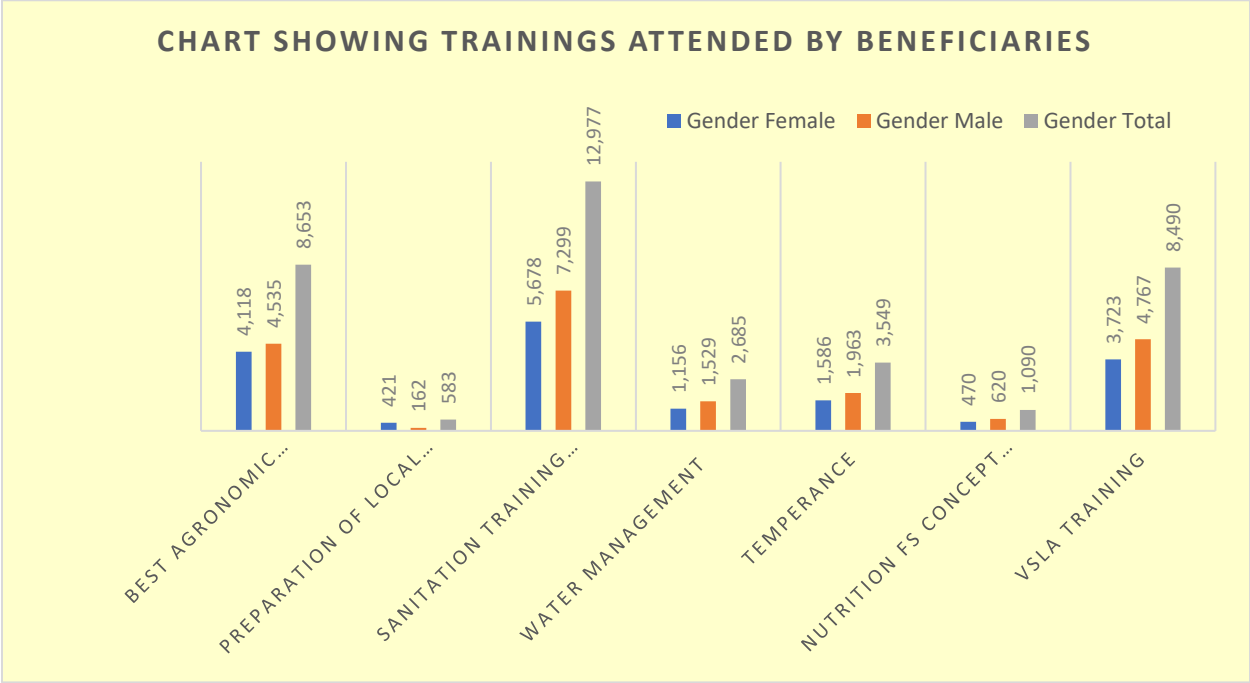
VSLA groups are continuing with their different groups, saving, borrowing and lending to the group members to carry out their businesses in a place where financial institutions offering loans are hardly seen or heard of, leaving the small businesses to struggle on their own.

*Picture 8 showing VSLA group meeting*



FS-SS conducted several trainings to the beneficiaries in Magwi community, in various life disciplines to enable the people manage their lives in the absence of FS-SS projects. The table below shows areas in which FS-SS empowered the citizens of Obbo, Magwi and Mugali with very important life aspect skills which are key to healthy families and community development. And the training target both men and women of the societies in Magwi county.

Figure 9 Chart showing different trainings offered to beneficiaries



**Water sources,** the 7 new and 8 rehabilitated boreholes which were done under the BRAL project will serve the community for long period of time given the training of the beneficiaries in water management, and 4 borehole repair technicians will be able to take care of the water sources properly.

**Planting of fruit trees,** the 16,125 fruit trees planted by the beneficiaries of BRAL will be providing them for a long period of time beyond the project lifespan in the county and for generations to come, improving family diet and the environment as well



*Picture 10 showing fruit seedlings distributed by Farm Stew growing in home of Margaret Laliki*



#### 4.1.7 Complementarity/ Coherence

The project activities of BRAL complement each other in their end results achievements and intended impacts on the beneficiaries' families and the communities in Magwi county. The activities ranging from nutrition, farming, value addition businesses, hygiene and water are all addressing basic human needs while pathing ways for development.

The farming and nutritional activities are addressing the sustainable development goal 2 ending hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture and giving better lives to humanity. While the activities of BRAL in the health and hygiene sector addresses SDG goal 3 good health for everybody. And in line with South Sudan national development strategy measurement 3, people have access to improved basic services

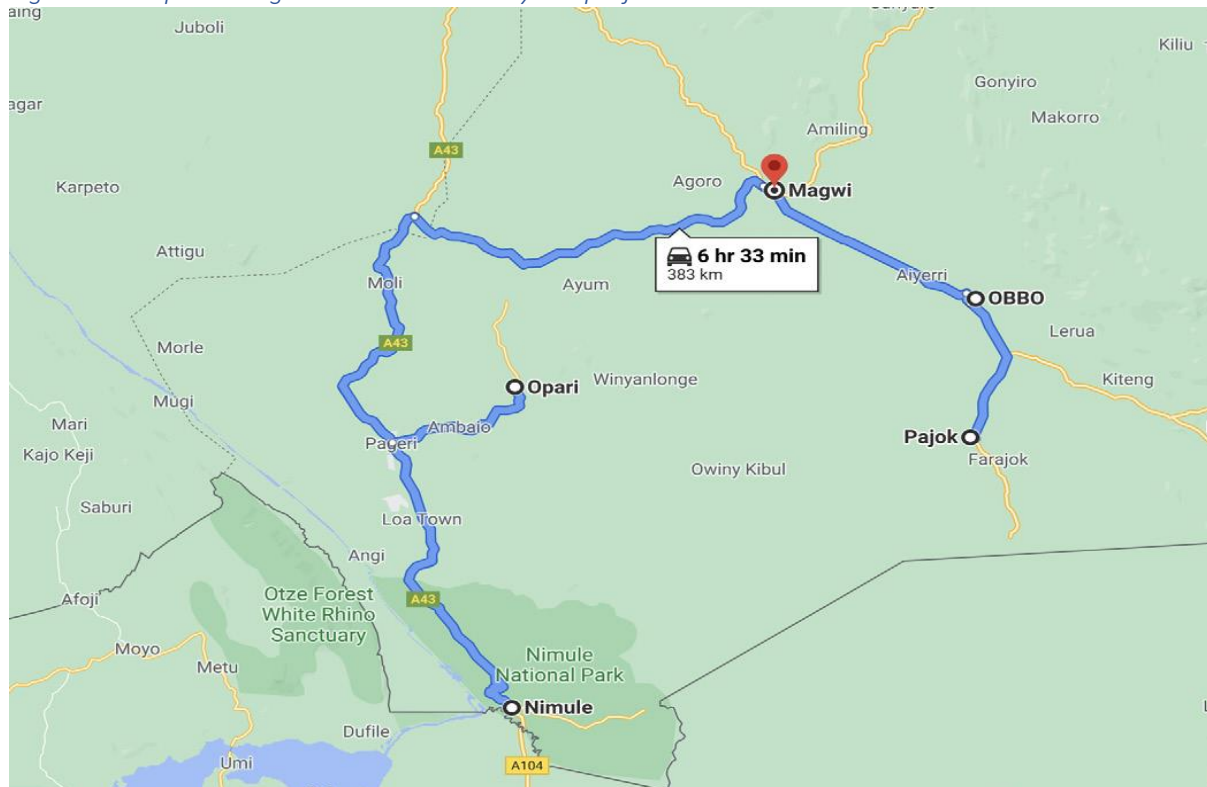
**Other agencies in Magwi county**, there other organisation offering similar project benefits to the people of Magwi county in Payams like Nimule, Pageri and Omeo agencies such as SPEDP, Caritas Luxemburg, BaseNet, FOA and Cordaid distributed beans, maize and vegetable seeds. However, there is no coordinated effort by the agencies to streamline the services to the people and divide area of service delivery for better result achievement

#### 4.1.8 Project Coverage

Farm Stew project of building resilience was implemented in Magwi county in five payams which includes, Obbo payam, Magwi payam, Omeo Payam, Pageri Payam, Nimule and Mugali Payam. In these payam, only some few bomas were targeted. Beside these livelihood projects, some few

schools in these Boma were also targeted. Ten schools were targeted in Madi corridor and another ten schools were targeted in Acholi corridor. In these schools, Farm Stew distributed sanitary pads for school girls. The project targeted 1400 households estimated 18,509 individuals from the three payams with its various lifesaving activities

*Figure 11 Map showing the areas covered by the project*



## 5.1 Section VI: Overall Performance of Project

Farm Stew building resilience project in Magwi County achieved most of its set project objectives as indicated in the results measurement against outcomes in table 1 and achievement level in table 2. Based on the findings, 90% of the project activities in the project log frame were successfully implemented in all the targeted locations. The communities of Magwi are farmers who are practicing traditional farming as a source of their livelihoods, before Farm Stew project of building resilience interventions in the areas. The interventions of Farm Stew project built the capacities of the beneficiaries to adopt improved ways of farming which will led to large scale farming using best agronomic practices for abundant food production in the county.

The feeding habits of many of the beneficiaries have started changing for a better health through eating balanced diet, schools' girls were educated in managing their menstrual period, reducing alcohol consumptions and building improved pit latrines to put an end to open defecation.

Overall most of the planned activities were achieved at 100% with exception of FS-SS Families certification which is 90% achieved. Value addition businesses at 75%. Therefore, overall activities implementation achievements stand at 91%. And the overall impact percentage of the project can

be estimated at 65% among the beneficiaries since change of attitudes towards health habit, clear marketing strategy for farmers produce, increment of farm sizes is still low among targeted beneficiaries so more work need to be done to reach 80 to 100% impact achievements through the activities.

## 5.2 Section VII: Lessons Learnt and Best Practices

**Exchange visit to Uganda.** Farmers were taken for exchange visits to Lugazi, Uganda to see the mechanized system of farming. These visits imparted additional knowledge and skills to the beneficiaries on farming especially commercial farming.

**Training households in food preparation and balancing diet:** This element of the project changed the feeding habits of the beneficiaries and is unique to see organization training families in preparing balanced diet. shaping their menus leading to improved family lives.

**Local partners' involvement in Magwi payam,** the line ministries of education and agricultural in Magwi county head office were fully engaged in the launching and implementation of the project, as well as those in Nimule were well informed and fully engaged in the activities, engaging line ministries helps in sustainability since the ministries have extension workers who will help in monitoring project activities and ease mobilisation of beneficiaries.

**Inadequate resources Sharing by beneficiaries,** sharing of the limited resources of the project led to misunderstanding among the community members, this was a case in Omeo payam cited by the chief, two farm groups of 25 members each were given one pairs of oxen and one ox-plough to share, the sharing became a problem at the end.

**Local Employment.** Employing people who are based in the project areas avoided current phenomimes of youth complaining or attacking youth employed from different states or counties. And ease project implementation since the area youths employed are familiar with the areas and the people

## 5.3 Section VIII: Project Implantation gaps

There are some implementation gaps which were identified during the data collection in the fields of Obba, Magwi and Mugali, that the evaluators believed affected the overall results of the project outcomes

**Incorporation of numerous activities for small budget is not giving the best output results,** the incorporation of several developmental activities in the project for very limited budget has affected the project from reaching all the beneficiaries with quality services that the few received

## 6.1 Section IX: Evaluation Conclusions

All the activities under BRAL were complementing each other in improving the lives of the beneficiaries and steering them to self-reliance, clean and healthy families and economic independency. Most of the planned activities were achieved as per the project set objectives at an overall 91%. Although real change in attitudes, behaviours and economic situation among the beneficiaries can be estimated at 65% for the project.

In the view of the evaluators, Farm Stew South Sudan laid a solid foundation for real agricultural reformation in the county. But due to the limited funding and time period it could not performed reformatory activities involving most of the targeted HHs. Hence extensive implementation and monitoring of activities progress among the beneficiaries were not possible. This can be seen by installing 7 new boreholes, 4 grinding meals, 16 ox-ploughs for 1400 households are not sufficient enough.

Therefore, following this project with similar activities building on the work done under BRAL through a multi-year agricultural project of 3 to 5 years, will see huge transitions of subsistent farmers to commercial farmers with high standards of family health transformation, change of behaviours and attitudes for positive living among the people of Magwi county. And this project should incorporate small grants for businesses which will elevate other farmers to be middle men in marketing farm produce hence creating market for smaller farmers.

## 7.1 Section X: Evaluation Recommendations

There are several recommendations inform of requests, concerns, suggestions that came out during the data collection process and they are categorised into beneficiaries' and evaluator recommendations and the evaluation team believed these comments will help the management of Farm Stew to improve its services to the beneficiaries in similar engagement in the future

### 7.2 Beneficiaries' recommendations

**Farm Stew provided quality seeds,** the beneficiaries appreciated the quality of the seeds they received from Farm Stew, that all of them germinated compared to seeds provided by other agencies in the areas did not germinate.

**VSLA training and formation in Opari Boma,** during the focus group discussion in Opari the beneficiaries requested Farm Stew to offer training and formation of VSLA in their place to help them in building their businesses

**Provision of small grant for businesses,** the beneficiaries also raised the issues of fund to support them in starting their businesses, the women leader of Opari requested Farm Stew to provide them with utensils and fund for starting a restaurant in Opari centre to help the women generate income for helping their families

**Market for farm produce,** there are farmers in Magwi who have produced excess soybeans that their families cannot consumed all requested FS-SS to link them to potential buyers of soybeans, currently some farmers having bags of soy in their store but not market in Magwi and Obbo

**More ox-ploughs and oxen distribution,** the farmers who received trainings and seeds but did not get opportunity of having access to ox-ploughs are requesting for ox-ploughs and oxen so that they can increase their farm sizes leading to enough food for families and sales

**Seeds of Beans, groundnuts,** the beneficiaries are requesting for seeds of beans and groundnuts which are heavily used by the local population besides the new seeds provided for them under BRAL project.

### 7.3 Evaluators' recommendation,

**FS-SS invested in agricultural training,** the organisation trained thousands of people in best agronomic practices but due to inadequate funding these people were not substantially supported to put their acquired skills in practices and FS-SS will not be able to monitor their individual progresses since the project has ended. Therefore, extending the agricultural component of this project for a year or two will help FS-SS reap the effort of their training through good farm yields that will be reported by the trainees.

**Increase and mentor more cooperatives and farmer groups,** the idea of farmers' groups and cooperative formation is a vital component of the project for the people of Magwi county, given their agricultural backgrounds and being the suppliers of Juba market with cassava, maize and sweet potatoes currently at small scale. Increasing the number of the cooperatives and farm groups and supporting them with farm tools like ox-plough will lead to commercialisation of the subsistence farming and financial independency among the current subsistent farmers

**Prioritising project activities in the face of insufficient fund is important,** prioritising a few project activities in the face of funding constraint is important for quality realisation and quantity maximisation, the current project incorporated so many activities hence due to limited funding most essential activities for recovery were provided to very few beneficiaries.

**Change of habits and attitudes is a slow progress,** the component of the project targeting change of feeding habits, health practices and behavioural changes which were targeted by FS-SS certification need to be done on a gradual manner over a long period of time. Otherwise, it will be a rushed certification which will lead to drop of home standards immediately after certification since the complete transformation of family members' behaviours, habits and attitudes would have not occurred as expected

**Small business grant to farmers.** Providing small grants to the farmers will supplement the VSLA contributions they are making, leading to increased farm businesses in the places and also improving the VSLA contributions from the members. Members will open medium size farms if they are supported with grants transforming them into commercial farmers as well as improving food security of the area.



## Section XI: Annexes.

### Annex 1 Success stories

I'm Lamunu Grace from obbo payam, a volunteer of F-S and a member of Aulya A farming group. I am thankful to F-S for the training we received in best Agronomic practices, cooking skill especially for soya milk and jam fruit had improved our diets. my message to F-S is that, they should continue to support us in linking us to market because we are now able to harvest more soybeans which has no market at the moment in Magwi.



Am call Adero Rose from Magwi Central Boma, the good thing I got from F-S is how to prepared soya milk, egg, porridge, and the Rainbow concept this has brought change in my family. all my children are now healthy since we have started using the soya products. I am now able to sell the soya to support me in paying school fees and also buy medicine for my children. Finally, I am appealing to FS to at least empower us for the upcoming two years in order for us to stand by our own.

My name is Christian Adya, 42 years old widow in Lobura West Magwi central. I am one of the project beneficiaries in the VSLA group – “Teacbee” meaning hard work pays as a group leader. I noted that, FS you are the heart of this VSLA groups and the heart of community of Magwi County in general. My husband died five years ago leaving me with four children to take care off. I was depressed and could not support my children before FS-SS intervention. I started seeing light when FS-SS conducted awareness and mobilization in this village. I joined VSLA where am able to save 2000 South Sudanese Pounds every week and access loan to support me in paying my children's school fees. Once again FS-SS you are the light and heart of our communities in Magwi County.



Table 3 List of key informants

LIST OF KEY INFORMANTS					
SNO	NAME IN FULL	GENDER	DESIGNATION	PAYAM/BOMA	CONTACT
1	Akop Okia	M	field coordinator	Magwi	921684418
2	Salva Ben	M	RRC chairperson	Magwi	922758881
3	Ogulle James Komakech	M	Youth leader	Labato	927341721
4	Acholla Christian	F	Woman leader	Labato	920036429
5	Okenyi Jino Charles	M	Volunteer	Obbo	924383550
6	Oyard Moses	M	Boma chief	Magwi Central	923466843
7	Betty Alal Sunday	F	Group leader	Fataena Magwi	923410699
8	Christian Adiya	F	Group leader	Lobura West	922330128
9	Esther Amowyi	F	Volunteer	Magwi Central	924782616
10	Cizirina Awach	F	volunteer F-S	Magwi Central	929270389
11	Okenyi Robbert Otto	M	volunteer F-S	Omeo	920555817
12	Rose Ouma	F	Group leader	Monlonyo co	
13	David Ochan	M	County Ex-Director	Magwi	925000401
14	Augustin Koloang	M	Agric -Director	Magwi	921273930
15	Idro Avilino Fleix	M	Chief	Opari	924810226
16	Abuyale Musa	M	Youth leader	Opari	928691744
17	Anthony Kalala Mario	M	Group leader	Opari	924610075
18	Agnes Angua	F	Woman leader	Opari	928908872
19	Patrick Nyko Paul	M	voluntee F-S	Opari	921678911
20	florence Moses Utua	F	voluntee F-S	Opari	928644707
21	Richard Mele Moses	M	Administrator	Pageri	928446576
22	Vuga Silver	M	Director Agric Forestry	Nimule	928703889
23	Daniel Alau	M	Deputy director Agric	Nimule	925803464
24	Akeri Ajelina Asienzo	F	County Education Director	Nimule	922118857
25	Abari Luke	M	School Inspector	Nimule	921743273
26	Christino Guma	M	Payam Education Supervisor	Mugali	928404799
27	Isaac Cinya Silivio	M	Boma chief	Mugali	925700913
28	John Anzo Josdeph	M	Head chief	Mugali	921715829
29	Mary Kije	F	Woman leader	Mugali	921716340
30	Everst Igga	M	Group leader	Mugali	923663545
31	Kenneth Anzo Peter	M	Group Secretary	Mutiba Farm Group	929656591
32	Ayiga Bullen	M	Group leader	Ganzi Farm Group	928703899
33	Cizirina Akongo	F	voluntee F-S	Mugali	
34	Madra Sisto Peter	M	Information officer	Mugali	929062240



35	Andruga John Mogga	M	Field coordinator F-S	Nimule	922251516
36	Alla Joseph Vuga	M	Agronomy F-S	Roving	925695958
37	Doreen Arikangelo	F	Training coordinator FS_SS	Juba	
38	Pita Grace	F	MŞE FS-SS	Juba	
39	Okumu Alfred	M	Finance Manager	Juba	
40	Lasu Charles	M	Executive Director FS-SS	Juba	