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# Sustainable Agriculture and Livelihoods for Economic Recovery (SALER)

## QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT

July 1, 2014 – September 30, 2014

For

THE UNITED STATES AGENCY  
FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

OFFICE OF FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

GRANT NO. AID-OFDA-G-13-00134

Submitted by:

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**Program Goal:** Increased food security and economic recovery for recently displaced IDPs and returnees (<2 years) and their host communities.

### Introduction

As most SALER targets were achieved by the end of the previous quarter, few activities remained to be completed. The main activities for the quarter were completion vocational training for the 89 participants and distribution of additional 60 ox- ploughs.

A qualitative survey was also conducted in the quarter and different groups were interviewed. The report of the survey is being compiled. The initial results show that there was general appreciation for the project and much impact on the lives of the beneficiaries. The project was reached many more people than planned.

### Achievements

The number of beneficiaries served this quarter in Sector 1, Agriculture and Food Security (AFS) and Sector 2, Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS):

	No. of beneficiaries targeted in program		No. of beneficiaries served since beginning of project	
	Total	IDP/Returnee	Total	IDP/Returnee
TOTALS	8414	2095	8862	1,429
	Male	Female	Male	Female
	4565	3849	4415	4447
	Adult	Under 18 yrs	Adult	Under 18 yrs
	N/A	N/A	8,693	169
1 AFS	1750	585	2435	731
	Male	Female	Male	Female
	1200	550	1161	1274
	Adult	Under 18 yrs	Adult	Under 18 yrs
	N/A	N/A	2266	168
2 ERMS	6664	1510	6427	698
	Male	Female	Male	Female
	3365	3299	3,254	3,173
	Adult	Under 18 yrs	Adult	Under 18 yrs
	N/A	N/A	6,426	1

## SECTOR 1. Agriculture & Food Security (AFS)

**Objective:** Improve access to food through increased agricultural production and post-harvest preservation.

SALER activities in the quarter concentrate on a survey to collect data from households on the harvesting of fish and months of food security. About 103 AFS farmers and 104 fisher folks were interviewed.

### SUB-SECTOR: Fisheries

The initial results from the survey reveal that we have some positive outcome of the project. A majority of the individuals felt that fish preservation was very helpful as it helped increase their income.

Indicator 1 & 2: # of people trained in fisheries and benefitting from fisheries activities, by sex									
Target for life of project:		New Trainees this reporting period:		All Trainees to date:		Assets Distributed to date:		% of trainees served:	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
640	130	0	0	644	136	373	143	101%	105%
Indicator 3: Average # of kg of fish harvested per fisher in six month period, by sex									
Target for life of project:				Survey results:					
M		F		M		F			
2200 kg		220 kg		1273 kg		1064 kg			

The results from the survey where 104 fisher folks farmers were surveyed are shown above. The average harvest for men is 1273kg for six months and the average for women is 1064kg. A total of 88 men were interviewed and a total of 16 women interviewed.

### SUB-SECTOR: Seed Security

A total of 60 ox-ploughs were distributed during the quarter. The new consignment was bought after seeking approval from USAID/OFDA. The request to buy and avail more ox-ploughs came from the farmers as they saw how useful the ox-ploughs were to their livelihood enhancement. The uptake of this technology has been excellently received especially with the 40% subsidy. Availability of ox-ploughs in the local market is limited to those provided by development agencies. Bottle storage was also trained on and has been used by women for small seeds, mainly vegetable seeds. The preserved seed will be used by the beneficiaries even beyond the project life.

Indicator 1: Projected increase in # of months of food self-sufficiency due to seed systems activities/agricultural input for beneficiary families									
Target for life of project:		Baseline food security		Follow up food security		Increased # of months of food security			
(# of months)		(# of months)		(# of months)		(# of months)			
2 mo									
Indicator 2: # of people benefitting from seed systems/agricultural input activities, by sex									
Target for life of project:		New Trainees this reporting period:		All Trainees to date:		Asset Distributions to Date:		% of trainees served:	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
110	70	0	0	89	76	76	28	81%	109%

Note: Data for baseline and follow up surveys will be analyzed and included in the final report.

#### SUB-SECTOR: *Improving Agricultural Production/Food Security*

The main activity in this quarter was monitoring of activities and follow up support to beneficiaries. All the participants who had attended four out of the six trainings were issued with a certificate of participation.

During the quarter, 103 households were interview to ascertain the number of months of food security. The results showed that the average number of months of food security was 4.6. Most of the families expect to have more food security this season than in previous years due to the vegetable farming and increased harvest of fish. Those who were doing vegetable farming were able to consume the vegetables during the lean period and also sell some to buy sorghum to feed their families.

Indicator 1: Projected increase in # of months of food self-sufficiency due to seed systems activities/agricultural input for beneficiary families									
Target for life of project:		Baseline food security		Follow up food security		Increased # of months of food security			
(# of months)		(# of months)		(# of months)		(# of months)			
2				4.6		0.0			
Indicator 2: # of people benefitting from seed systems/agricultural input activities, by sex									
Target for life of project:		New Trainees this reporting period:		All Trainees to date:		Assets Distributed to date:		% of trainees served:	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
450	350			428	1062	428	1062	95%	303%

Note: Data for baseline and follow up surveys will be analyzed and included in the final report.

#### SECTOR 2. *Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS)*

**Objective:** Increased access to business opportunities through capacity building.

SALER activities during this quarter focused on new livelihoods development as well as microfinance.

*SUB-SECTOR: Livelihoods Restoration*

No additional activities were completed in this quarter. All the blacksmith and welders trained continued to operate their shops. Blacksmiths continue to receive orders for farm implements. Welders have not been able to make metallic silos as the demand is not yet expressed. However, they have continued to use the skills obtained to fabricate household items for home use like cooking source pans and metallic serving spoons. Beneficiaries under pottery were not making pots during a visit made in August. This is because it's a rainy season. They will resume this activity in the dry season.

Indicator 1: # of people assisted through livelihood restoration activities, by sex									
Target for life of project:		New Trainees this reporting period:		All Trainees to date:		Assets Distributed to date:		% of trainees served:	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
24	40	0	0	27	27	0	0	113%	68%
Indicator 2: % of beneficiaries reporting their livelihoods restored within 3 to 6 months after receiving support.									
Target for life of project:				Survey results:					
M		F		M		F			
85%		85%							
Indicator 3: Total USD amount channeled into the program area through sub-sector activities									
Target for life of project:		Total this quarter:		Cumulative total:		% of money spent			
\$6000		\$ -		\$ 2,810.00		47%			

Note: Will report on Indicator 2 with final report.

*SUB-SECTOR: New Livelihoods*

A total of 89 trainees graduated vocational training courses. All the students in tailoring received a sewing machine as a start-up support. Similarly, all the trainees in masonry received an assortment of tools as a start-up kit. The trainees under the driving course underwent a driving assessment with the state traffic police and received a driving license. Graduates reported that they had either started some business or used their skill to improve their livelihoods. Driver-

school graduates confirmed that they had either successfully used their certificate/driving license to successfully secure a job or meaningfully engaged their skills to earn a living.

Indicator 1: # of people assisted through new livelihood development, by sex									
Target for life of project:		New Trainees this reporting period:		All Trainees to date:		Assets Distributed to date:		% of trainees served:	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
65	35	50	39	50	39	24	34	0%	0%
Indicator 2: # of new MSEs started.									
M		F		M		F			
0		0		0		0			
Indicator 3: % of people, by sex, continuing in their new livelihoods by program completion.									
Target for life of project:				Survey results					
M		F		M		F			
95%		85%		0		0			
Target for life of project:		Total this quarter:		Cumulative total:		% of money spent			
\$19,930		\$ 8,011.00		\$ 8,011.00		40%			

**SUB-SECTOR: *Microfinance***

The micro-finance team continued to support beneficiaries through the individual members of ASCA groups. The main activity for this quarter was to graduate the mature groups and link them up with the community development department at the payam level. Similarly, the remaining literacy participants were issued with certificates.

The specific activities realized under the micro-finance sub-sector for this quarter are highlighted below:

**Literacy training continued** from last quarter. A total of 398 (191 males and 207 females) participants from various groups attended literacy trainings in Gogrial West and East counties. The number of literacy graduates who have completed their course will be included in the final report. Qualification is based on the ability of a participant to write their names and undertake simple numerical calculations. Graduates are helping their groups keep group records on attendance, savings and loans.

Indicator 1: # of people, by sex, or MSEs newly receiving financial services or continuing to receive financial services due to USAID/OFDA support									
Target for life of project:		New ASCA members served this reporting period:		Total # of ASCA members served:		Training		% of trainees served:	
M	F	M	F	M	F	Literacy	Business	M	F
3276	3224	0	0	3,177	3,107	483	2265	97%	96%
Indicator 2: % of financial service accounts/groups supported by USAID/OFDA that are functioning properly.									
Target for life of project:				Survey results:					
90%				0%					
Indicator 3: Total USD amount channeled into the program area through sub-sector activities									
Target for life of project:		Total this quarter:		Cumulative total:		% of money spent			
\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		0%			

**Key Outputs:**

- Graduation of 89 VTC trainees
- Distribution of 60 ox-ploughs.

**Analysis of Progress:** ASCAs groups’ savings declined this quarter. This can be attributed to two factors, one, the hunger period was setting in this quarter and two, the planting season. Financial resources were therefore diverted to these two issues.

**Challenges:**

A major delay was also observed in receiving the ox- ploughs from the capital city Juba to the project area in Warrap state. It took over one and half months to have the ox ploughs brought in. The project requested a no-cost extension to complete ox plough distributions, delayed mainly because the roads were impassible due to flooding.

The quarter also falls within the hunger gap in the country. This was made more complex by the floods last year and the violence that ensued in December 2013. Food prices continued to rise. This slowed down participation in ASCA activities. In the agriculture sector, the demo store with seed preservation was partially robbed. The demonstration on seed preservation activities in Kuac South was stopped due to this robbery. However, the results from other payams were shared with participants from Kuac South.

Movement of commodities was also restricted. This has continued to adversely affect profits generated by small businesses run by some of the ASCA group members.

**Collaboration/Coordination:** The local leadership, especially Payam Administrators, have continued to be supportive of project activities through constant consultations with the project team. Graduations across the sectors have been attended by these Payam Administrators as acknowledgement of the project value in the communities.

The project has had close collaboration from other players in the area, such as the WFP and FAO. World Concern continues to participate in the Food Security Clusters to share updates on the project.

**New Developments:** The conflict, which began in December, impacted SALER by requiring staff to hibernate or relocate when violence threatened their safety. It also impacted SALER's capacity to procure and distribute assets such as treadle pumps, in a timely manner. Beneficiaries are not willing to pay for a subsidized treadle pump in the rainy season. Therefore, dry season seeds and tools were distributed instead.