South Sudan Nutritional Aid for Preschoolers (SSNAP)

Fiscal Year 2012 Annual Results Report
Year Ending September 30, 2012

For

THE UNITED STATES AGENCY
FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Bureau of Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Office of Food for Peace

World Concern Development Organization South Sudan
GRANT No. AID-FFP-G-11-00071

Submitted by:

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ANNUAL PROGRAM REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: October 1, 2011– September 30, 2012

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D. DATE OF THIS REPORT: November 5, 2012

Introduction: Annual Food Aid Program Results

Program Goal: Improved nutritional outcomes for children ages 6-to-24 month olds and to prevent malnutrition in young children from 6-to-24 months old during the 2012 hunger gap, as evidenced by MUAC measurements.

Major Award Activity: The distribution of Nutributter as a ready-to-use food supplement to breast feeding and traditional foods.

The distribution program included the recruitment and training of 24 community-based nutrition volunteers, trained by a nutritionist provided by the State Ministry of Health. The trained volunteers instructed the caregivers on the need for breastfeeding infants and providing nutritious food to children, ages 6 to 24 months, as well as training caregivers on the appropriate uses of Nutributter. The trainings also highlighted the importance of nutrition in human growth and development, especially during the first 1000 days of childhood, which determines the future health of the person. It went on to differentiate between a healthy and malnourished person, addressing the main causes of malnutrition, measures of preventing malnutrition, as well as the ways of identifying/measuring different levels of malnutrition.

Additional staff capacity building was provided by World Concern consultant, Merry Fitzpatrick. The training was comprehensive, covering the planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the project, covering the topics of Health, Nutrition, Feeding Practices, Food Security, Livelihood, Value Chains and Assessments.

The project in Raga County began as early as February 2012 in six centers. The registration process involved local government approvals, staff and volunteer trainings, community sensitization, nutritional assessments and beneficiary registrations. Registrations continued throughout the project as the team was forced to find and register beneficiaries in more counties due to the faster distribution required by the short shelf life and because World Food Program and other agencies also announced plans to distribute of Plumpy Doz, Plumpy Nut, and CSB Plus in the communities originally targeted by this project. The project then expanded to three counties in Western Bahr El Ghazal (Raga, Wau and Jur River counties). Delays and pipeline breaks of the other products created gaps in the other distribution projects, which made the Nutributter distributions during the hunger gap all that more critical.

Distributions began in May 2012 in some locations which were accessible, secure and densely populated**. Out of 39.6 metric tons (3300 cartons) of Nutributter received, 28.96 metric tons (2413 cartons) have been distributed to 14,561 children (7366 males, 7195 females) who received, on average, 3 to 5 monthly rations.** This amount is lower than the original planned amount for several reasons. First, shipping and logistic delays resulted in the Nutributter product being delivered to the distribution site in late April, several months later than the planned start of distribution in February. Second, most of the product was labeled "Best-used-before" (BB) July and September, creating a need to accelerate distribution and seek additional beneficiaries. Third, government intervention, partly related to their misunderstanding of the BB dates, created additional delays in distribution.

The product has been well received as evidenced by consistent attendance, growing demand and positive reaction of the communities. Caregivers must return the 30 empty sachets in order to receive the next month's ration. This provides evidence that the product is being used and not sold or discarded.

More beneficiaries showed up during the distribution in addition to those registered earlier. According to one of the elders in Kangi Center, the registration process started towards the end of the dry season when most of the population were not around. In the dry season, most of the residents leave the area and move with all their children towards the river side to survive on fishing and gathering wild fruits while their cattle also graze and drink from those rivers. When it rains (around May – June) then they return for cultivation. Therefore registrations continued throughout the distribution process. This is the case always in most of the rural areas and is reported to be the same in all three counties of Western Bahr El Ghazal State .

Success Stories

Adeng Makuei Akol, a resident of Tharkueng, is a 42-year-old mother of eight children including one-year-old twins.

Holding her children with smiling face, waiting to receive her June Nutributter ration, Adeng shared with us. She explained, "My family has a small scale farm which we are working to earn our living, but we face daily issues with food shortages, health problems as well as school fees for my children. Being a mother of such a big family is a heartache to me and I believe to other mothers, too, because when it comes to raising up children in such an economy, everything tends to be expensive in the market. When you have young children, the days become too long and times get hard, their crying becomes intolerable, hope becomes doom, future becomes dim, lives become hollow, birth and life become bitter, days become night, light becomes dark. After I have gone through these hard times, I became hopeless and wonder whether there will be a better future for my family. But when World Concern Development Organization staff came here to register 6-24 months children including my two twins to assist them with Nutributter to improve their nutrition growth and development, I was among the happiest people to welcome them. That was the time my hope was restored back again. Now I am hopeful, and I know every month my twins will be receiving something for their health, even if it is little but it makes a big difference. I know it is better to have that little packet than to have nothing. Thank God, World Concern has now given me hope, energy and courage to struggle to work hard and supplement the rest of the food to my twins to grow well, strong and healthy."

Acoyo Kuot Yuot, a farmer in the village of Tharkweng is the head of a household of 5. Three children are of school age.

She says, "My children are always sick, but I can't afford to take them to Wau Teaching Hospital for treatment neither can I afford to buy them medicine. My children don't have enough food to eat due to the economic threat. The price for 2kg of sorghum or maize is 20 South Sudanese Pound.

My survival is difficult; I am depending on agriculture activities, and working on other people's farms to get some money to survive. With the little food I have, we eat twice a day once in a while, and sorghum is the only type of food we eat since it is what we cultivate.

My conditions at the moment are getting worse than ever before. Last year, my garden didn't produce a lot of food because there was flood which swept away my sorghum. Without the income, I cannot afford the school fees to keep my 3 children in school

As you can see me now, I am growing thin and old, not because its nature but because of lack of food and the same time my children are facing sickness. I can't afford to take them to clinic for treatment.

My hope now is, if there is going to be fair rain this year, then I will cultivate on my farm so that next year I will have enough food to eat and to pay school fees for my children.

Ayak Deng Ngong is a farmer in Tharkweng, caring for a family of three on SSP15/day.

Ayak describes her problems as a lack of food and a lack of school fees. She is working her farm and doing some other business activities such as burning charcoal and selling some vegetables. She eats one meal a day, every evening but not during the day time. Her diet is usually limited to sorghum. She has one child in school

She says, "My conditions are not very bad. I am trying to make sure I get something to eat every day, compared to those days when I used to depend for income on just the food I grew in my garden. That didn't bring in significant income at all, so I decided to do some other business activities, which bring some income today for my family.

My family can eat every evening at least, though some days they couldn't get something. It's not so bad like last year 2011; it was terrible on my side. It's not the same because the World Concern is now providing pieces of Nutributter for my child that is another difference. However, another challenge is the sickness, that remains trouble to me, but I hope things will get better. My hope is that my little business will keep on running, and as I continue farming, my farm will produce well, and if at all possible, World Concern will continue to provide Nutributter for my child.

Lessons Learned

Logistics Difficulties: Even though all 39.6 metric tons shipped within 2 months of the receipt of the award, transit required 4 months due to the backlogged condition of the seaport at

Mombasa (due to the famine in the Horn), and changes in regulations imposed by the S. Sudanese officials. Additionally, the product was marked with best-if-used-by dates which forced faster distributions than originally planned. World Concern's original proposal was to distribute to 7875 children over 8 months. The products received were marked with best-if-used-by dates of July, September and October, 2012, forcing a revision of the distribution plan to be crunched into a 3 to 5 month time frame.

Staff recruitment: Another tough lesson is related to the difficulties experienced in staff recruitment. This element required a longer struggle and process, which was restricted and even directed by the state government bodies, Relief & Rehabilitation Commission as well as the Labor Office. The S. Sudanese government requires that employment should include citizens from the state only; in addition to the fact that the government should be part of the recruitment process from the first to the last stages. However, it is difficult to find and recruit qualified, trained technical Sudanese staff. So, the registration process was delayed due to labor shortages.

State Government Approvals: A third lesson learned relates to approvals to distribute from the State Government. The Department of Nutrition had no proper communication channel established with NGOs, creating a gap in coordination and information sharing among partners and the state, resulting in disputes and decisions that hindered program activities. Western Bahr el Ghazal state has no leading NGO to implement overall nutrition activities across the region and relies on the Nutrition Department within the Ministry of Health. As with most government agencies, this department suffers from very low capacity in staffing, transport, and communication systems, making it difficult to understand the state policies and priorities.

Ration distributions Ngo Halima Center

Caregiver Receiving a 30 Days Ration

Caregiver Confirming Receipt of June Ratio in the Presence of WC Staff and Government Officials in Tharkueng Center

International Food Relief Partnership
Fiscal Year 2012 Summary Request Table

Host Country or Countries	**Awardee**	**Food Aid Program Category**
South Sudan	World Concern Development Organization	International Food Relief Partnership
Award Number	**Life of Award *(mm/yy to mm/yy)***	**FFP Funding Source**
AID-FFP-G-11-00071	September 2011 to March 2013	Development Funding
Submission Date *(mm/dd/yy)*	**Submission Type**	**Fiscal Year**
11/5/2012	Original	2012

Program Element	Food Aid Commodity (MT)	Cash Resources (if any) - Specify *(IFRP, USAID mission, private sector, host government, etc.)*	
	Final for FY12	Final Cash Resources for FY12	Specify
Nutrition	39.6 MT	$112,499	IFRP
Nutrition		$36,745	private sector
Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust *(applicable only to those receiving BEHT resources)*			
TOTAL	0	$149,244	

Highly Vulnerable Children (HVC) Beneficiary Data

Does your program implement activities to benefit highly vulnerable children? (Proposal PREP and ARR)

	Planned FY12			Reached FY 12			Planned FY 13		
	Total HVC Resources ($000)	Male <17.9 years	Female <17.9 years	Total HVC Resources ($000)	Male <17.9 years	Female <17.9 years	Total HVC Resources ($000)	Male <17.9 years	Female <17.9 years
If yes, what is the resource level targeting HVCs ?	0			0			0		

HIV Programming

List the type(s) of HIV activities implemented by the food aid program.

What areas/districts/towns are covered by the food aid program's HIV component?

What is the monthly food aid ration and ration size of food commodities? Specify if they are individual or household rations; if a household ration, indicate the number of family members the ration is based on.

List the types of activities implemented with complementary HIV funding (Cost Share, mission DA, PEPFAR, private sector, etc.). Activities might include, for example, nutrition assessment/counseling, prevention, surveillance, logistics, therapeutic food, training, water & sanitation, education, etc.

Fiscal Year 2012 Beneficiary Data by Program Element

Remember: Food aid pograms operating in more than one host country should provide an aggregate total on the Beneficiaries by Sector tab, and then provide totals disaggregated by individual country of operation on the Regional Beneficiaries by Sector tab. The instructions for both tabs are the same.

Host Country or Countries
South Sudan

Awardee
World Concern Development Organization

Food Aid Program Category
International Food Relief Partnership

Award Number
AID-FFP-G-11-00071

Life of Award *(mm/yy to mm/yy)*
September 2011 to March 2013

FFP Funding Source
Development Funding

Submission Date *(mm/dd/yy)*
11/5/2012

Submission Type
Original

Fiscal Year
2012

Program Element	FY12 Results Report Data						Outyear Estimates					
	Planned Beneficiaries FY12			Reached Beneficiaries FY12			Planned Beneficiaries FY13			Outyear Estimates		
	Male	Female	FY12 Planned Total	Male	Female	FY12 Planned Total	Male	Female	FY13 Planned Total	FY14 Planned Total	FY15 Planned Total	FY16 Planned Total
Nutrition	10,671	10,414	21,085	7,366	7,195	14,561			-			
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Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust (applicable only those food aid programs receiving BEHT resources)												
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			-			-			-			
Total Direct Beneficiaries	10,671	10,414	21,085	7,366	7,195	14,561	0	0	-	0	0	0

IDP and Refugee Beneficiary Data				
Does your food aid program implement activities to benefit IDPs or refugees?		Planned FY12	Reached FY12	Planned FY13
If yes, what was the number of IDP beneficiaries in FY10?				
If yes, what was the number of refugee beneficiaries in FY10?				

Name and Contact Information of Individual Completing this Form	
Name:	
Complete Address:	
Phone:	
Email:	