



Kingdom of the Netherlands



Agro-Processing for Better Income and Job Creation

Food Security Through Agribusiness in South Sudan Project (SSADP II) – funded by the Kingdom of the Netherlands Embassy in South Sudan for five years with a total budget 10 Million Euro. The intends to support 10,000 farmers, 1000 Start-up agribusiness (Youth and Women entrepreneurs), 750 Existing Agribusiness (MSME) and Private Sectors aimed to improve Household food security, household income and create jobs in Yambio, Torit and Bor. The project strives to increase farmers' and agribusiness access to inputs, technology, markets, and finance. The project is implemented by a consortium of NGOs led by Cordaid that includes SPARK and Agriterra.

As of Dec 2020, the project reached about 8060 farmers (51 % female), established, and supported 190 FEMA groups, 123 cooperatives, 60 VEMSAs (that emerged from either FEMA or coops to mobilize saving and contribute social fund - so far; mobilized 17 thousand USD as saving), 225 MSME and 188 YWE. Moreover, it formed 51 CMDRR committees, conducted 45 PDRA, 2 Conflict Risk Analysis (in Torit and Bor), engaged 6 Privates Sectors (2 on agro input dealership, 2 on Poultry Feeds Production, 2 on Honey, Sorghum and Gnuts Processing) and granted worth 92 thousand USD. Together with RUFi the project developed three loan products and created A2F for 23 cooperatives (comprises of 878 members – 47% female), 3 individual progressive farmer and 8 YWE, 2 MSME and 3 FEMA (comprises of 51 members – 43% female); so far, RUFi disbursed 134 Thousand USD and collected 24 Thousand USD as repayment as per the repayment schedule. The project also facilitated C-BED Training for 36 Coop and 25 VEMSA representatives (281, 40 %female) as part of RBDS to enhance their agribusiness skill and to develop their business plan for Technology Fund on Value Addition and Start-up Seed Money Grant Respectively¹.

Upon support to farmers in 2020, farmers reported an increase in production in maize by 60%, sorghum by 50% and groundnuts by 2% compared with their harvest in 2018 baseline data; the ground nuts low performance was due to over rain in the season. According to the data collected from 413 farmers during End year LTO Indicators survey 36% farmers reported that as their income is increased after the project, compared with last year although the inflation which is approx. 100% make the comparison complicated. In addition, the project created job for more 50 youths in different agribusiness activities.

¹ NGO – Non-Government Organization; FEMA - Farmers Economy and Market Association; VEMSA – Village Economy, Market and Social Association; USD – US Dollar; YWE - Youth and Women entrepreneurs; MSME – Medium, Small and Micro Entrprise; CMDRR – Community Managed Disaster and Risk Reduction; PDRA – Participatory Disaster and Risk Analysis; RUFi – Rural Finance Initiative; C-BED – Community Based Enterprise Development; RBDS – Resilience Business Development Service; and LTO – Long-term Outcome



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Gamboripai (meaning God’s Will in Azande) Agro-Processors and Service Company (GAPSEC) started in 2016 as a sole proprietorship business with one maize grinding mill and groundnuts paste machine. With the support from the Project since 2019 this initiative had gradually went on increasing. Especially the Business Skills Training and Access to Finance (**3 Million SSP**) helped Youth **Michael Aliam Sikindi** (Business Owner and Managing Director), 24 years old, to establish a first-class maize processing and packaging plant in Yambio. GAPSEC has fully been registered as a company operating in Western Equatoria State and had constructed a permanent building on its land that offers a store for its products, an office and machine room for first class maize production. GAPSEC started the processing fully in September 2020.



GAPSEC monthly buys approximately 5 tons of maize grains from the local farmers to process it into first-class maize flour for human consumption and maize bran for livestock and poultry feeding. In addition to own grain processing and supply, it provides milling service for the community with fair prices. This provides Market Access for smallholder farmers in the State, saves women time and reduce their burden

from using the rudimentary ways of maize processing into flour, provides a solution to high demand for dollar to import first-class maize flour from Uganda and alleviating traders from high transaction costs. Moreover, GAPSEC has created job opportunity for 6 youth excluding the technician that routinely maintain the machines and pay 10000 SSP monthly salary for each employee including for himself. This contributed to the minimize the economic hardships of these 6 youths and their family which was the major cause of crimes and insecurity in WES and South Sudan at large.



GAPSEC started the loan repayment to RUF1 172 Thousand per Month and Monthly it is saving 30 Thousand SSP for Maintenance and Depreciation Recovery with Kush Bank, Yambio Branch. Youth Michael Aliam Sikindi has a vision and plan to become one of the major Agro-processors of various Agricultural Products in the State including but not limited to the following: to expand the current maize processing capacity, to start new product line and services such as maize thresher, ground nut processing (threshing, paste making and peanut butter processing and packing), livestock feed processing and packing, rice processing, oil processing, ... etc.

CONTACTS

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Some Pictures of the

GAPSEC processing, office and store building located 300 meters away from Masia Market- Yambio



GAPSEC maize thresher, huller and miller machines installed for first class maize flour processing.

One of the hired youths organizing for ceiling bags of processed maize flour