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SOUTH SUDAN RESILIENT AGRICULTURAL LIVELIHOODS PROJECT SECOND ADDITIONAL FINANCING, (P169120).

UPDATED STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN (SEP)

OCTOBER 2026

JUBA, SOUTH SUDAN

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AAP	Accountability to Affected Populations
BDC	Boma Development Committee
CAD	County Agriculture Department
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CSA	Climate smart Agriculture
DG	Director General
E & S	Environmental and Social
ESCP	Environmental and Social Commitment Plan
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan
ESS	Environmental and Social Standard
ESF	Environmental and social Framework
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCV	Fragile, Conflict and Violent
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GBV	Gender-based Violence
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
HoFO	Head of Field Office
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IP	Implementing Partner
KII	Key Informant Interview
MAFS	Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security
SMAFE	State Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Environment
MOFEP	Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
PCU	Project Coordination Unit
PDC	Payam Development Committee
PMU	Project Management Unit
PSC	Project Steering Committee
PWD	Persons with disabilities
PPFNSC	Preparedness Plan for Food and Nutrition Security Crises
RALP/AF	Resilient Agricultural Livelihoods Project/First Additional Financing
AF2	Second Additional Financing
SEA	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
SEP	Stakeholder Engagement Plan
TCC	Technical Coordination Committee
TPM	Third-party monitor
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNMISS	United Nations Mission in South Sudan
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services

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VLD	Voluntary land donation
PBC	Performance-based condition
SGR	Strategic Grain Reserve
WFP	World Food Programme
CERC	Contingent Emergency Response Component
SEA/SH	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse / Sexual Harassment
ESRS	Environmental and Social Review Summary
FPIC	Free, Prior and Informed Consent
OIG	Office of the Inspector General (FAO)
GRS	Grievance Redress Service (World Bank)
WHO	World Health Organization

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The World Bank's ESS 10 recognizes the importance of open and transparent engagement with all project stakeholders, based on the recognition that effective stakeholder engagement can improve environmental and social (E&S) sustainability of project activities, enhance project acceptance, and implementation, and allow stakeholders to contribute to project design. The key objectives of stakeholder engagement include an assessment of the level of interest and support of the project by stakeholders to promote effective and inclusive engagement with all project-affected parties and to ensure that project information on E&S risks and impacts is disclosed in a timely and understandable way.

The South Sudan Access to Information Act No. 65 of 2013 spells out that every citizen shall have the right of access to information. It focuses on the right to access information held by public entities in South Sudan. In accordance with WB's ESS10, the government must make sure that stakeholder's engagement as an integral part of a project's environmental and social assessment. This is done through consultations, stakeholder identification and analysis, plans on how to engage all stakeholders, disclosure of information related to second RALP additional financing (AF2). The consultations embrace the principles of timeliness, independence, clear objectives, building the capacity of stakeholders and obtaining necessary feedback.

The SEP provides for the development of location-specific stakeholder engagement plans for the 17 counties. Already, all the 13 counties have their SEP developed and the additional four SEPs will be developed for the new counties. SEP establishes a clear engagement process, methods for addressing grievance, roles, and responsibilities in the project implementation; and reporting and monitoring mechanisms.

The RALP AF2 will be implemented in all the seventeen (17) counties, and it will address the project. development objective (PDO), i.e., to "to strengthen the capacity of farmers, and their organizations and improve agricultural production".

The AF2 builds scales up on the achievements and lessons learnt under RALP/AF intervention. In addition, the newly added counties for AF2 are selected based on 2026 IPC classification report categorized as Phase 4 or worse in the latest FEWS NET assessment. The proposed intervention will scale up support to communities and farmer organization to strengthen adaptive capacity, enhance resilience, contributing to South Sudan's food security and agricultural production. In addition, the AF2 will strengthen the capacity of the borrower to: (i) enhance the capacity of participating states to respond to the challenges and opportunities because of flooding and the influx of refugees and returnees; and (ii) establish critical investments to restore livelihoods following the flooding and the impacts of influx of returnees and refugees in the counties targeted by the parent project.

The project will be structured in four components, including the zero-cost Component 4 (Contingent Emergency Response Component, CERC), as shown below:

Component 1: Capacity Building in Good Agricultural Practices including (i) Subcomponent 1.1: Formation and strengthen Farmer Organizations (ii) Subcomponent 1.2: Improving farming knowledge and skills through the
Strengthening extension services; Training in Climate-Smart and Nutrition-Sensitive Agricultural Practices; Strengthening the capacity of CAHWs; and Dissemination of Early Warning and Advisory Messages through Solar-Powered Radios (iii) subcomponent 1.3: Capacity building in animal health; (iv) subcomponent 1.4: skills in fish post-harvest processing and handling AF2 would strengthen 800 existing farmer organizations and establish 400 new groups (including in the four additional counties), re-engage 260 extension officers and train up to 60 more, provide refresher training for 450 existing and training

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for 200 additional Community Animal Health Workers, and expand community advisory services through five telemetric flood-monitoring stations, ten river gauges and solar-powered radios serving 1,000 communities.

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Component 2: Investment Support for Improved Agricultural Production including (i) Subcomponent 2.1: Increasing access to food among food-insecure households and natural resource management (food and nutrition vouchers for up to 50,000 households; full crop and vegetable packages for 100,000 new households and gap-based top-ups for 100,000 existing households; household and school gardens, including at least 85 schools, supported through WFP; small-ruminant packages, flood-tolerant rice and alternative livelihoods); (ii) Subcomponent 2.2: Increasing availability of quality seeds and planting materials; (iii) Subcomponent 2.3: Enhancing access to technologies, mechanization and markets (mechanization, portable solar irrigation for 450 vegetable groups, post-harvest technologies, equipping the national soil laboratory and two plant-protection laboratories, pest surveillance, and structured market linkages for about 500 producer groups); (iv) Subcomponent 2.4: Livestock health, feeding and productivity enhancement (vaccination and treatment campaigns, disease surveillance, community animal health services, solar-powered cold chain, fodder production and feed banks); and (v) Subcomponent 2.5: Sustainable fisheries development (50 new and 106 existing fisheries groups).

Component 3: Project Management, Institutional Strengthening and Food Security Crisis Preparedness including (i) Subcomponent 3.1: Project management, monitoring and implementation support (including environmental and social risk management, grievance management, communications, third-party monitoring and secondment of 13 MAFS technical staff); (ii) Subcomponent 3.2: Food security crisis preparedness and early warning systems (Food Security Council, implementation of the Preparedness Plan for Food and Nutrition Security Crises, food security and nutrition risk monitoring, Joint Monitoring Reports, Community-Based Disaster Risk Management Committees in all 17 project counties, and flood-monitoring stations, river gauges and community radio); and (iii) Subcomponent 3.3: Strategic food reserve and food systems policy reforms, including a pilot Strategic Grain Reserve of up to 4,000 MT for emergency response (referred to as Subcomponent 3.4 in parts of the Project Paper) and a conflict-sensitive land tenure pilot in one county (participatory land-use planning, documentation of customary rights, local land institutions and Land Information System procedures).

AF2 provides an additional US$50.0 million IDA grant from the Crisis Response Window Early Response Financing, to reach approximately 200,000 households in 17 counties across ten states (full productive packages for 100,000 new households and needs-based top-ups for 100,000 existing households). New or expanded activities include: (i) food and nutrition vouchers for up to 50,000 households in IPC Phase 3–5 areas, scaled up from 6,000 households under AF1 using the same vendor and implementing-partner arrangements, with vulnerability assessment, market assessments to set voucher values and verify eligible vendors, and distribution points and schedules designed to limit travel distance and GBV risks for women; (ii) a pilot Strategic Grain Reserve (SGR) of up to 4,000 MT using existing WFP-managed warehouses, with WFP undertaking grain procurement and stock management on behalf of the Government under a Framework Agreement and providing technical support under a UN-to-UN agreement with FAO, linked to four performance-based conditions (SGR policy, operational manual, Government–WFP Framework Agreement and verified Government financing) worth US$2 million; the project does not finance new public warehouses; (iii) equipping the national soil laboratory and two plant-protection laboratories; (iv) portable solar irrigation for 450 vegetable groups; (v) household and school gardens in at least 85 schools; and (vi) a conflict-sensitive land tenure pilot in one county selected through an agreed technical and social assessment, targeting 1,000 hectares mapped, 500 people registered and 50 land-administration staff and community representatives trained. Closing date of AF2 is 23 February 2029.

Urgent need and retroactive financing: AF2 is prepared under Paragraph 12 of Section III of the Investment Project Financing Policy (projects in situations of urgent need of assistance or capacity constraints), and proposes an increased retroactive financing limit of up to 40 percent of the AF2 grant for eligible Government expenditures incurred not more than 12 months before the expected signing of the legal agreement. Retroactive financing is subject to safeguards agreed at Appraisal: a pre-agreed list of eligible expenditure categories, Bank prior review of supporting documentation, independent

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verification through Third-Party Monitoring, and confirmation of compliance with ESF and procurement requirements. For this SEP, any activity financed retroactively will follow the ESCP and this SEP: beneficiary targeting criteria will be disclosed and a working GRM, including the SEA/SH channel, will be in place in the relevant county before distribution or other activity begins, and the TPM will verify engagement and grievance handling for those activities. Disclosure of this SEP and the ESCP will be completed before Appraisal.

The targeted stakeholders for AF2 include rural farming households, fisheries groups, women groups, new crop/seed production groups, vegetable producer groups Other interested parties to the second RALP AF include Members of the Boma Development Committees (BDCs) and Payam Development Committees (PDCs), County Development Committees, State Technical Committees, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS), Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Government ministries - MAFS, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MOFEP), South Sudan Meteorological Department and Governors of participating states, International NGOs, local and national CSOs and NGOs operating in the agriculture, health, education, livelihood sectors, Local Business and Construction Companies, UN agencies, WFP, voucher recipients and participating vendors, Strategic Grain Reserve suppliers and warehouse operators, schools and parents (school gardens), customary land institutions, fish traders, and environmental protection and veterinary authorities. RALP AF2 will prioritize the needs of vulnerable groups such women and girls, Female-headed households/ widows, youths, minority ethnic groups, Internally Displaced People (IDPs)/Refugees, and Returnees and persons with disabilities and their caregivers.

The AF2 implementation will be supported by MAFS as the lead executing agency, FAO as the implementing agency, WFP as a responsible entity for voucher, school-garden, warehouse and Strategic Grain Reserve activities, and their associated local partners. In addition, there will be oversight committees from Boma to the national level. These include the Boma Development Committee (BDC), Payam Development Committee (PDC), County Core Team (CCT), State Technical Committee (STC), National Technical Committee (NTC), and the National Advisory Committee (NAC).

The SEP will be disclosed to the beneficiary communities and other interested parties. The following key methods will be used for disclosing SEP: radio broadcasting, community meetings in coordination with local authorities (county governments, BDCs and PDCs), phone communication (SMS), and notices at the Payam and boma level. Information will be disclosed in English and the key local languages of each county (including oral and radio formats suited to low-literacy audiences, as specified by county in Section 4). Local authorities, such as traditional authorities, religious leaders, and county governors, will be requested to inform communities in community meetings and through disclosure at project locations. The SEP and the ESCP will be disclosed before Appraisal, including in-country at county level and in local languages, and the draft ESMF will be disclosed and consulted upon before Appraisal and cleared before Effectiveness (see Table 8).

Stakeholder engagement is core to the project interventions and will be the daily responsibility ofproject staff working at community level when facilitating the organization of groups and other.

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activities. Therefore, all human resources mobilized by the project (MAFS, FAO and implementing partners) will be primarily engaged in the process on an ongoing basis. The project will recruit 10 FAO Environmental and Social Risk Management and GRM Officers dedicated to guiding the process of stakeholder engagement with groups such as women, IDPs/ returnees; minority groups. The project budget will cover their costs. They will establish the GRM structures and functions, and coordinate with the oversight committees throughout the project locations.

Budgetary resources will be dedicated to the implementation of the SEP through formulation of location specific SEPs for each subproject and their implementation – four additional SEPs will be developed for the new counties. While there will be an overall budget administered by the PMU to monitor SEPs and other ESMF activities, FAO and IPs will have dedicated budget resources to implement the SEPs as part of the integral project costs for each activity. Adequate institutional arrangements, systems, and resources will be put in place to monitor the application of stakeholder engagement in line with this SEP across the whole project. The goals of monitoring will be to measure the success rate of the activities, determine whether interventions havehandled negative impacts, identify ideas for improvement of interventions, and whether further interventions are required, or monitoring is to be extended in some areas. The goal of inspection activities is to ensure that sub-component activities comply with the plans and procedures laid out in the ESMF and ESCP.

The main monitoring responsibilities will be with the PMU, and overall project-related environmental and social monitoring and main implementer of the SEP. This will be led by the PMU Environmental and Social Risk Management Specialists, with the support of the GRM Officers in the PIUs and with oversight from the PCU Safeguards team.

In addition, IPs will have their own dedicated means of monitoring impacts, administering mitigating measures, and stakeholder involvement in consultation with FAO to ensure consistency in quality.

A third-party monitor (TPM) will be engaged and maintained by the PCU throughout implementation, on a competitive basis, to provide anindependent operational review of overall project implementation and project results, including the implementation of the SEP, ESMF and GRM

The results of stakeholder consultations will be reported back to the project affected by population and other interested parties through reports and field monitoring visits. This will be the sole responsibility of PMU and PCU to ensure that all the reports are shared in a timely manner and appropriate public means.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The World Bank's ESS 10 recognizes the importance of open and transparent engagement with all project stakeholders, based on the recognition that effective stakeholder engagement can improve environmental and social (E&S) sustainability of project activities, enhance project acceptance, and implementation, and allow stakeholders to contribute to project design. The key objectives of stakeholder engagement include an assessment of the level of interest and support of the project by stakeholders to promote effective and inclusive engagement with all project-affected parties and to ensure that project information on E&S risks and impacts is disclosed in a timely and understandable way.

The South Sudan Access to Information Act No. 65 of 2013 spells out that every citizen shall have the right of access to information. It focuses on the right to access information held by public bodies in South Sudan. The purpose of the Act is to give effect to the constitutional right of access to information, promote maximum disclosure of information in the public interest, and establish effective mechanisms to secure that right. The project shall adhere to the Act.

The WB's ESS10 also sets out that a borrower must engage with stakeholders as an integral part of a project's environmental and social assessment and project design and implementation. The nature, scope, and frequency of engagement should be proportional to the nature and scale of the project. Consultations with stakeholders must be meaningful and be based on stakeholder identification and analysis, plans on how to engage stakeholders, disclosure of information, actual consultations, as well as responses to stakeholder grievances and reporting back to stakeholders. Meaningful stakeholder engagement throughout the project cycle is an essential aspect of good project management and provides opportunities for Borrowers to learn from the experience, knowledge, and concerns of the affected and interested stakeholders, and to manage their expectations by clarifying the extent of the Borrower's responsibilities and resources.

This Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) outlines the general principles and strategies for preparing Stakeholder Engagement Plans (SEPs) consistent with ESS10. It is designed to anchor all stakeholder engagement in a systematic way for the South Sudan Resilient Agricultural Livelihoods Project (RALP AF2). It lays out legal and policy requirements in regardto stakeholder engagements, lists engagements already undertaken, provides a stakeholder identification and analysis of all relevant project-affected parties to the RALP AF2 and lays out means of dissemination of information to different parties as well as means and ways to continue to consultdifferent stakeholder groups throughout the project cycle. Furthermore, it contains a monitoring planthat ensures the implementation of subsequent site specific SEPs.

The SEP will therefore guide the development of activity-specific or area-specific SEPs, which will be developed before rollout of the project upon confirmation to include and address the specific concerns related to local conditions.

This SEP is based on the guiding principles that stakeholder engagement should:

- Be timely.
- Be independent (free of external manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination, and intimidation)
- Have clear objectives.
- Have the capacity to influence the stakeholders.
- Obtain feedback, and address community concerns transparently.
- Trigger provision of resources and other modifications, where needed.
- Be properly documented and disclosed by the borrower.

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- Generate minutes from every meeting/interview.
- Generate recordings or photos, if culturally accepted
-

The site-specific SEPs will be updated with the following procedure as a guide:

Classify Stakeholders. As an initial step in stakeholder analysis, classifying thestakeholders into defined groups can assist in the next, more detailed steps. This will focus on County level, with linkages to State or National level where appropriate.
Develop a Power/Interest Grid to help identify stakeholders based on their power and interest in the project. This will clarify the ability and extent of the stakeholder to stop and/or change the project (power) who has high or low power to affect or be affected by the project, and the amount of overlap the stakeholder's interests have with the project, defining their "stake" in the project. This is the primary stakeholder analysis tool.

Define Power - analysis of the power of the stakeholder to get a sense of howmuch influence they have, and therefore how much they need to be informedand engaged throughout the project.

Define Interest – analysis to determine what the stakeholders' interests in the project really are.

Develop the Stakeholder Engagement Plan - the stakeholder communication needs are itemized based on the power and influence analysis. The type of communication and its frequency is specified.

The site-specific SEPs will be updated based on the criteria below:
Provide guidance for stakeholder engagement such that it meets the standards of International Best Practice while adhering to national, World Bank and international requirements for consultation.

Identify key stakeholders that are affected, and/or able to influence the Project and its activities.
Identify the most effective methods, timing, and structures through which to share project information, and to ensure regular, accessible, transparent and appropriate consultation.
Develop a stakeholders' engagement process that provides stakeholders with an opportunity to influence project planning and design.
Establish formal grievance/resolution mechanisms in line with traditional authorities for ease of acceptance and use.

Define roles and responsibilities for the implementation of the SEP.

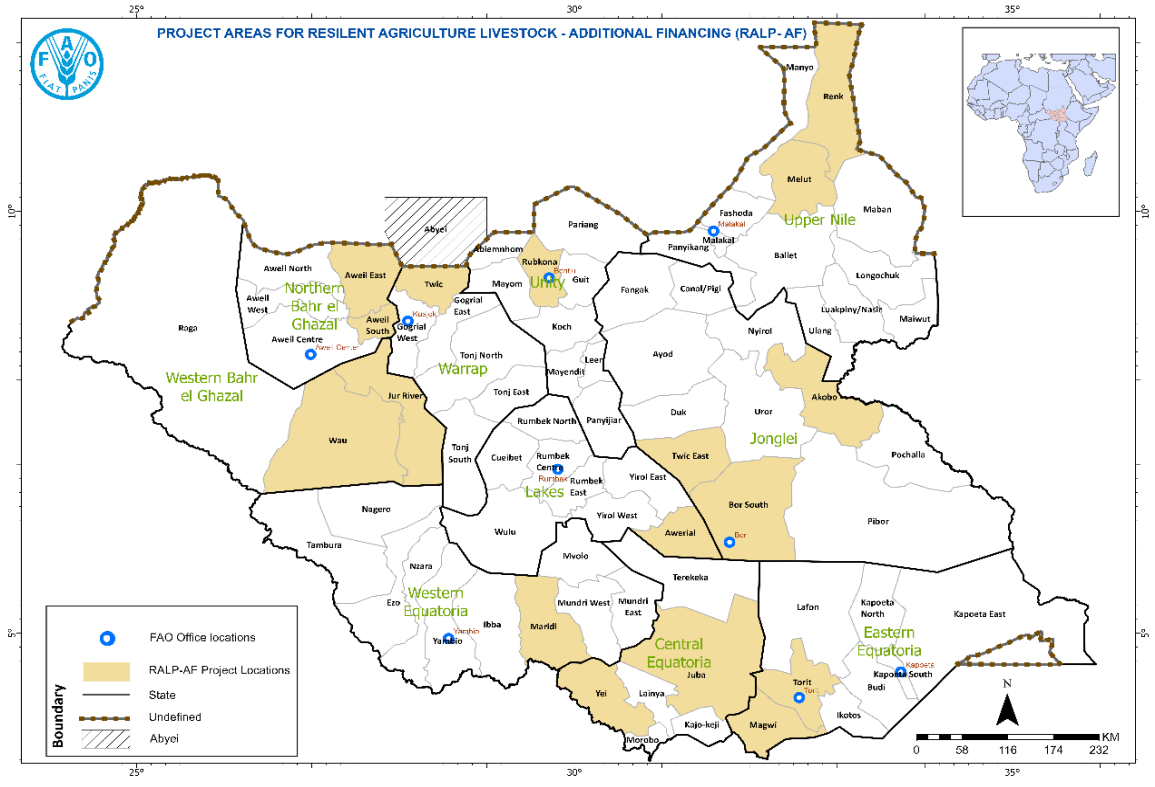
Define reporting and monitoring measures to ensure the effectiveness of the SEP and periodical reviews of the SEP based on findings.

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The Parent RALP development objective is "to strengthen the capacity of farmers and their organizations and improve agricultural production.

AF2 will scale up the activities financed under both the parent and AF1 intervention geared toward providing assets and services to increase food production. The scaled-up activities will increase the number of targeted beneficiary households. Per the Project Paper, AF2 is expected to reach an additional 200,000 households, raising the cumulative target to approximately 483,610 households, with beneficiary reporting at household level and disaggregated by sex, returnee and refugee status.

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2. BRIEF SUMMARY OF STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES DURING PROJECT DESIGN

Engagements and consultation on the project design and the planned activities and implementation arrangements were conducted with key stakeholders including officials from the relevant Government agencies, and development partners such as UN agencies, as well as NGOs. Consultations with selected farming households and groups were carried out through KII and focus group discussions (FGD) as part of the FSNMS survey that is used as an input for the RALP AF2 design. MAFS also conducted consultations with the World Bank and FAO at the national level, as per table 1, 2 and 3 below.

Stakeholder consultations for AF2 were carried out across the 13 counties listed in section 1.1 above while for the new additional 4 counties (Rubkona, Awerial, Twic and Juba), consultations will be held and documented before Appraisal and they are currentl ongoing so that adequate information is available to inform the design and implementation of the project in the four additional targeted counties. If any consultation has not been completed by Appraisal, no AF2 activity will start in that county until consultations have been held, documented (including participation disaggregated by sex, age, disability and displacement status, and how views were addressed) and reflected in the county-specific SEP and the ESMF. The teams recorded priority important needs and concerns pertaining to transportation, marketing, quality control and nutritional values, extension services, information and communication, administration and management of individuals in the post-harvest handling activities as well as crops production cost.

Table 1: The findings (needs) from the stakeholder consultations in the first 13 counties for the parent project:

	Sector Activities	Needs
Livestock post-harvest handling activities		
1.	Administer vaccination services for livestock	a. Livestock vaccination kits for each county b. Support the private sector
2.	Training of Community Animal Health Workers	Training manuals and refresher training course for Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs), Animal Health Auxiliary and field veterinarians for effective veterinary services a. Fodder production and processing. b. Community dialogue c. Peace building. d. Environmental protection e. Anti-mortem examination and meat inspection, carcasses disposal
3.	Supply milk locally	a. Milk pasteurization, storage and transportation facilities. b. Establish milk chilling centers. c. Provide milk fridges and containers. d. One week training in milk processing, storage, transportation and marketing

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4.	Clean slaughter slabs to maintain hygiene, keep off flies	a. Provide waste bins for slaughterhouses. b. construct septic tanks, washrooms (bathrooms and toilets) for each slaughter slab staff and Anti Mortem facility and water system. c. Provide water harvest tanks for each slaughter slab. d. Environmental Health certificates for each butcher

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	Sector Activities	Needs
		e. Provide disinfectants. f. Provide sterilization equipment to boil water for cleaning slabs and disinfecting slaughter tools. g. Provide personal protective equipment for butchers such as protective aprons such as chain-mill and aluminum aprons, chain-mail gloves, and cut-resistant gloves. h. Provide storage facilities for meats, hides and skins and tanneries processing equipment
5.	Clean butcheries regularly to maintain hygiene	a. Provide waste bins inside and outside meat markets. b. Construct septic tanks, washrooms (bathrooms and toilets) for each meat market staff. c. Environmental Health certificates for each butcher d. Provide water harvest tanks for each slaughter slab. e. Provide disinfectants. f. Provide sterilization equipment to boil water for cleaning. butcheries and disinfecting butchers' tools g. Installation of power and running water in the current slaughter facility h. Training of public health personnel on meat hygiene and sanitary measures i. Construction of an incinerator for safe disposal of condemned carcasses. j. Provide personal protective equipment for butchers such as i. Band saw / Bone saw. ii. Biltong slicers. iii. Meat mincers. iv. Meat mixers. v. Meat slicers. vi. Sausage fillers. vii. Hamburger press. viii. Vacuum machines.
6.	Livestock post-harvest handling and marketing	a. Construct/ rehabilitate meat markets. b. Management of meat markets c. Transportation means for meats from slaughter slabs to meat market. d. Storage facilities for meats e.g. refrigeration pre-cooling, cleaning and disinfecting, sorting and grading, packaging, storing, and transportation. e. Improvement of the local breed through artificial insemination techniques and or crossbreeding. f. Training on livestock products handling and processing.

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	Sector Activities	Needs
		g. Provision of processing equipment for safe handling and processing of livestock products h. Improvement of animal feeds through the introduction of fodder cultivation i. Provision of fodder seeds and training of pastoralists on cultivation skills through the establishment of demonstration plots. j. Training on fodder preservation skills such as making of hay and silage to improve animal weight and milk production during the dry season. k. Support the formation of pastoralist union and butchers' association to promote and regulate trade in livestock and livestock products such as milk, meat, hides & skin, etc. l. Encourage the formation of cooperatives for livestock products. m. Enforcement of the rule of law and resolution of communal conflicts n. Establishment of meat market o. Provision of cold chain storage and appropriate transportation equipment.
7	Conduct surveillance on disease prevalence	Treat livestock against diseases such East Coast Fever
8	Challenges facing the livestock sector	a. The Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries (MLF) should expedite the development of relevant policies to regulate the livestock sector. b. Provision of sufficient veterinary drugs and vaccines by the government and the development partners c. Provision of subsidized veterinary drugs d. Awareness creation and training on the proper use of veterinary drugs e. Awareness campaigns on the importance of animal vaccines in disease prevention and control f. Establishment of landfill for proper waste management g. Construction of incinerator for safe disposal of condemned carcasses h. Rehabilitation of the existing Wau veterinary laboratory i. Provision of laboratory equipment and reagent j. Training of laboratory personnel k. Provision of cold chain for the storage of meat

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	Sector Activities	Needs
		l. Awareness creation to law enforcement authorities on the importance of following the guidelines, especially on animal movement.
Fisheries Sector Post Harvest-Handling Activities and Needs		
1.	Type of fish catch and fishing gears	a. Common species of fish in the area for market are Nile perch, Lates Nilotic us, tilapias. b. Train beneficiaries on making nets and ropes for fishing; fishing technologies
2.	Fisheries actors at the landing sites, markets and transportation	Fisher mongers, traders' association, traders, transporters, county and state inspectors, Local inhabitants, Ugandans,
3.	Methods used to process and preserve the fish	Salting, sun drying and smoking
4.	Fisheries infrastructures and services required to improve the quality and safety of fish.	a. Construction of the landing sites b. Cold storage c. Smoking kiln/oven d. Transportation means. Provision of refrigerated motorboats, fiberglass (Engine Boat), motorbikes and mobile deep freezer e. Construction of fish market f. Construction of storage facilities with cold chain g. Construction of smoking kiln/oven
5.	Fish market linkages and fisheries products	a. Fish is locally sold in the nearest markets, Juba and to the neighboring countries like Uganda, Kenya and D.R. Congo
6.	Fish processing, handling, preservation and marketing	a. Fish processing equipment. b. Fish preservation equipment. c. Provide waste bins inside d. Construct septic tanks, washrooms (bathrooms and toilets) for fisheries market. e. Provide water harvest tanks for each fishery market. f. Environmental Health certificates for each butcher g. Provide disinfectants. h. Provide sterilization equipment to boil water for cleaning slabs and disinfecting slaughter tools. i. Provide personal protective equipment's for butchers such as protective aprons such as chainmail and aluminum aprons, chain-mail gloves, and cut-resistant gloves

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	Sector Activities	Needs
		j. Provide cold chains for fish preservation. k. Provide solar power
7.	Capacity building on good fish handling and hygiene practices and fish processing	a. Training manuals on fish processing, preservation, packaging, transportation b. Training on fish handling, processing, preservation and packaging
Agroforestry and Natural Resources Management		
1.	Rice production in the flooded areas	a. Training in rice production. Establishment of demonstration farms to train farmers on rice production b. Training in small-scale irrigation for rice production c. Agroecological assessment for suitability of rice spp d. Construction of shelter belts for prevention of floods, windbreaks and increased soil fertility. e. Construction of dikes to control water flow f. Planting of fast maturing crops and flood/drought resistant crops e.g. sorghum varieties such as wad Hamad, sisal 3, etc.
2.	Fruit trees and crops preferred under the additional financing	a. Scale up seedling's nurseries for mangoes, lemons, oranges, guavas. Distribute the fruit tree seeds and seedlings for free. b. Provision of greenhouse. c. Provision of tools and PPE
3.	Small-scale irrigation	a. Support on access to small-scale irrigation equipment. b. Provision of solar pump/genset pump for small-scale irrigation c. Provision of drip irrigation equipment d. Training on the use of small-scale irrigation equipment
4.	Capacity building	a. Training in crop processing, storage and marketing b. Provision of equipment crop (rice) processing, storage, c. Training on integrated farming systems (mixed cropping, fish farming, fodder production for livestock nutrition) d. Training on land tenure security for farming to achieve food security. e. Training on pests and disease control measures: Traditional methods; Mechanical methods; Biological methods; Chemical methods. f. Access for seeds and preservation of seeds e.g. traditional landraces (OPVs), improved seeds g. Training on good agronomic practices such as grafting and budding,

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	Sector Activities	Needs
		h. Training on agroforestry practices i. Training on vegetable production and management j. Training on orchard establishment and management k. Training on pests and disease prevention and controls l. Provision of ox-plough, oxen/ donkeys m. Provision of mechanized plows such as power tillers n. Provision of farming tools such as hoes, wheelbarrows, axes, slashers, watering cans, etc. o. Provision of transportation means (tricycles, motorbikes, etc.) p. Provision of PPEs and first aid kits q. Exposure tour to well-established farms r. Encourage large-scale seeds, crops, and vegetable production for market
	Access to seeds both Use traditional landrace seeds and improved seeds supplied	a. Provision of improved quality seeds b. Promotion of seed production by local farmers c. Encourage seed fares for locally produced seeds. d. Training of local farmers on seed production and preservation e. Construction of seed/grain stores for proper seed storage.
	Control techniques against post-harvest pests and diseases	a. Training of farmers on the use of local herbs such as neem trees, mahogany bark, tobacco, pili-pili, etc., b. Training of farmers on crop preservation, post-harvesting handling and management c. Provision of sprayers such as motorized and backpack sprayers d. Training on the proper use of chemical pesticides where necessary.
i.	Age/ social groups involved in farming. a. Women b. Youths c. Men d. People Living with Disability etc.	Most on-farm work is undertaken by women. Hence to ensure inclusivity, women, youths and people living with disability should be targeted separately.

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10.	Local environmental protection knowledge and alternative environmentally friendly cooking methods	a. Training in making energy saving stoves. b. Provide free tree seedlings. c. Dyke rehabilitation

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Table 2: Stakeholder Engagement Activities During RALP/AF design

StakeholderGroup	Location	Expected RALP/AF Project Engagement/Interest
World Bank, FAO, and Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS)	World Bank office Juba (January 2020) and Virtual (April – November 2020)	The World Bank is financing the project MAFS is the Borrower and Project Manager FAO is the lead technical partner and will provide key. technical assistance and capacity building support.
Farmer households – during Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring System (FSNMS)survey	Torit County	Livelihoods based on livestock rearing and agricultural activities.Project beneficiaries will benefit from Project interventions such as training on good agricultural practices, provision of agricultural inputs, provision of grants for productive assets and construction of community facilities. Concerns around conflict between Pastoralists and farmers will need to be addressed as the project seeks to increase land under cultivation.
Farmer households – during Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring System (FSNMS)survey	Wau	Livelihoods based on agriculture, supplemented by seasonal fishing. Project beneficiaries will benefit from Project interventions such as training on good agricultural practices,provision of agricultural inputs, provision of grants for productive assets and construction of community facilities. Farmers will benefit from capacity building on integrated pest management and pest and disease resistant crop varieties, as crop pests and diseases pose a significant challenge for agricultural production.
Farmer households – during Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring System (FSNMS) survey	Aweil	Livelihoods based on livestock rearing, agricultural activities and fishing. Project beneficiaries will benefit from Project interventions such as training on good agricultural practices, provision of agricultural inputs, provision of grants for productive assets and construction of community facilities.

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		Farmers will benefit from capacity building on water harvesting and climate-smart agriculture planning tools and technologies to strengthen their capacity for addressing climate-related events such as floods and droughts.

Table 3: Provides details of stakeholder Engagement Activities in 13 counties During RALP/AF2 design

Stakeholder Group	Location	Expected RALP/AF2 Interest/ focus	Stakeholders Needs and concerns	How concerns were addressed
State and county agriculture authorities	Wau (July 2026)	Confirm availability and functionality of soil testing equipment, trained personnel. 3 soil technicians available at the unit; Need for Proper assessment of the soil equipment to ascertain the exact number of the equipment. The crop production cost questionnaire was administered to CAD. Enhanced coordination between MAFS-SPCU, state MAFE, CAD and IPs for effective implementation of RALP AF2 activities	Training of additional soil technicians to supplement the current staff who are inadequate to manage the soil laboratory. WAU CAD urged to routinely provide extension services through hands on support to farmers on CSA,	Training of additional soil technicians and support to the soil laboratory will be considered under the soil health and laboratory activities of AF2 [to be confirmed by MAFS and FAO].
County authorities	Renk, Bor South, Magwi, Torit, Aweil East, Aweil South, Wau, Jur River, Melut, Akobo, Twic East, Yei, and Maridi (July 2026)	Administering crop production cost questionnaire to CAD to support preparation for AF2. Discussion to ensure support of local authorities for timely completion of RALP/AF activities; gather adequate data for preparation of AF2 and	Stakeholders highlighted insecurity, floods and drought as major challenges. Continue supporting farmer organization	

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		improve coordination during implementation. Discussion on constrains, and lessons during implementation of RALP/AF to improve arrangement for AF2.	through extension services and training on good agricultural practices. Agriculture Director at western Equatoria SMAFE requested for expansion of RALP to other counties beyond Maridi,	The Director's request to expand beyond Maridi is reflected in AF2, which adds four new counties (Rubkona, Awerial, Twic and Juba). The earlier statement that no new location would be selected is superseded; the State Ministry will be informed and consulted before Appraisal.
Non-Governmental organizations and UN agencies	Renk, Bor South, Magwi, Torit, Aweil East, Aweil South, Wau, Jur River, Melut, Akobo, Twic East, Yei, and Maridi (July 2026)	Experience sharing, complementarity of livelihood activities and to avoid duplications	[To be completed from consultation record: NGO and UN agency views on complementarity and avoiding duplication, including WFP coordination on vouchers, school gardens and SGR.]	[To be completed: how coordination arrangements address the concerns raised.]
Farmer groups and farmers' households, machinery services providers during the crops production assessment	Renk, Bor South, Magwi, Torit, Aweil East, Aweil South, Wau, Jur River, Melut, Akobo, Twic East, Yei, and Maridi (July 2026)	Adoption and continued implementation of climate-smart agriculture to increase food productivity, Train farmers and production groups in integrated soil fertility management Identify operational constraints to inform the design and	Unreliable rainfall patterns, pests and wild animals are the major threats affecting crop production, Torit and Magwi	Farmers were encouraged to practice crop rotation, intercropping herbicides to manage crop pests and diseases.

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		investment priorities of the proposed RALP AF2. The crop production cost questionnaire was administered to individual farmers whose responses are key into the kobo tool collect for analysis	farmers demand RALP/AF2 to Provide tractors or its ploughing cost to improve expedite land preparation and reduce labour costs	Farmers in Torit and Magwi were informed that their suggestion will be discussed, and feedback be provided.
Women, persons with disabilities, IDPs/returnees and pastoralists (all counties)	[Counties/dates]	Inclusive participation in AF2 design and SEP implementation	[To be recorded from July 2026 consultations and Annex 3, disaggregated]	[To be recorded: how views were addressed]
Four new counties: Rubkona, Awerial, Twic and Juba (county and state authorities, farmer groups, women, persons with disabilities, IDPs and returnees, pastoralists, vendors, schools)	[Dates and venues – before Appraisal]	Consultation on AF2 activities, voucher targeting, SGR, land tenure pilot, site-specific SEPs and GRM set-up	[To be recorded after consultations, with participation disaggregated by sex, age, disability, IDP status and livelihood]	[To be recorded: how views were addressed]

National-level consultations mainly resulted to agreements over the scope of the project, that it will address the enhancement of agricultural production capacity in project areas, while strengthening national and county institutions' capacity to provide long-term support for the sustainable growth of the agricultural sector via policy reforms, improved infrastructure and extension services. During the first consultation for the project, criteria for geographical targeting was endorsed with the agreement that not all areas may meet all the criteria fully, and there will be a need to balance needs and opportunitiesversus anticipated challenges in various locations. The team developed a targeting index which aggregates the following six indicators: (i) need (ii) potential for agricultural production; (iii) access; (iv)equity; (v) catalytic and complementary programmes; and (vi) footprint of service providers. Accordingly, targeted data (coordination, need, potential, connectivity and security) was used to identify priority counties and *payams* which are safe for implementation.

The various missions also agreed on the following key features: (i) focus on gender (both gender empowerment and gender-based violence mitigation) and youth; (ii) focus on capacity development at household andfarmer organization levels; (iii) strong technical assistance and capacity building activities for MAFS to support the creation of a more enabling environment in terms of policy and technical knowledge; and (iv) focus on low-hanging fruit since the project budget and period is not as much as required to truly transform agricultural production in the country.

Agreements were made to finance "quick wins" to deliver tangible results quickly and help build the momentum of the project. It was agreed that the final "quick wins" will be selected based on vulnerability and available budget. The combination of "quick wins" and vulnerable counties allows the project to

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benefit both stable and conflict-affected areas.

Further location-specific consultations will be carried out prior to commencement of AF2 to identify and address stakeholders needs, including the use of sex-disaggregated surveys and target groups, and vulnerability-based selection criteria to prioritize their inclusion as project beneficiaries. Results of the consultations will be used for location specific SEP and be integrated into the updated Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF). Consultation records for all counties will include disaggregated participation (women, persons with disabilities, IDPs, returnees, pastoralists, youth) and a record of how stakeholders' views were addressed.

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3. STAKEHOLDER IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS

Stakeholder engagement is the interaction with, and influence of project stakeholders to the overall benefit of the project and its advocates. ESS10 recognizes two broad categories of stakeholders: 1) those likely to be affected by the project because of actual impacts or potential risks to their physical environment, health, security, cultural practices, well-being, or livelihoods (project affected parties),and 2) other interested parties.

In view of the RALP AF2, affected parties will likely be in the Seventeen counties proposed for project implementation. Among these affected parties, beneficiaries will be identified through transparent community participation with verification being done by an independent third-party monitor. While not every affected party will also be a beneficiary, it is crucial to disseminate information and engage with all stakeholders on project modalities as well as on the selection criteria of beneficiaries in the affectedareas.

2.1 Affected Parties

Effective consultations and other stakeholder engagements with the project-affected communities will be conducted by the FAO Project Management Unit (PMU), with oversight from the MAFS Project Coordination Unit (PCU), throughout implementation period.

Table 4: Directly or Indirectly Project-Affected Parties

Stakeholder	Component	Expected RALP AF2 Project Engagement/Interest
Small farmer and agro-pastoralist households	C1 / C2	Most affected by low agricultural production and vulnerable livelihoods. Project interventions such as training, provision of inputs, grants and construction of community facilities have significant impacts on them. They will need to be effectively consulted and sensitized to mitigate E&S risks. and enhance project benefits.
Small pastoralist households	C1 / C2	Households reliant on pastoralist livelihoods may interact with farmer / agro-pastoralist households through expansion of areas under cultivation interfering with them traditional routes for tending livestock.
Fisheries groups	C2	Households engaged in fishing and post-harvesting activities including preservation of fish for market and home use to improve on their livelihoods may benefit from the project interventions. The fisheries sector has suffered lack of support for many years, yet it contributes significantly to household food security and livelihoods. Fish is highly perishable. Harvested fish lack sanitary places for processing (cold chain systems, motor transports), marketing and consumption.
IDPs, in those who are persons with disabilities, from ethnic/other minorities, and women	C1 / C2	Due to the internal conflict in the country, some people from affected counties like Akobo fled their home areas to more stable areas within the country and neighboring counties for security reasons. Some returned to their places of origin while others are yet to return as soon as stability and security is restored. Demand forbasic services would increase. Among IDPs are persons who have suffered disabilities because of the conflict. The South Sudan Humanitarian Needs Overview estimates a total of 1.3 million IDPs in need nationally[1].

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Host communities	C1 / C2	Often tension is reported between IDPs and their host communities. In the Seventeen respective counties, there are several locations where IDPs meet and interact with host communities. It is. therefore, important to also attend to the needs of host communities.

[1] OCHA Humanitarian Needs Overview South Sudan 2020

Women and girls	C1 / C2	Although women play a critical role in the maintenance of household livelihoods and provision of labor in agriculture, they generally have less access to productive resources, services and employment opportunities. Women and girls in South Sudan suffer from significant discrimination, including in education, economic empowerment and public participation, and are subject to widespread Gender-based Violence (GBV), including domestic violence, gang rape and other abuses.
Widows and female-headed households	C1 / C2	Given that more men die in the protracted conflict in South Sudan, a continuous increase in widows and female-headed households is taking place. This has resulted in changes of the intra-household roles. Widows in particular are often marginalized and vulnerable in host. communities as well as among the IDP and returnee populations.
Youth and women groups	C1/C2	Being the largest demographic in South Sudan and facing significant vulnerability owing to the country's context, the effects of crisis and shocks disproportionately impact the youth. This calls for their targeted inclusion and involvement in the project activities through consultations and information disclosures. The Sudanese military as well as other armed groups have regularly recruited large. numbers of boys as child soldiers and girls to perform sexual and domestic services for armed combatants.
Returnees	C1 / C2	Due to the internal conflict in the country many people fled the country for security reasons and will likely return as soon as stability and security is restored. Demand for basic services is paramount. Among returnees are persons who have suffered disabilities because of the conflict.
Ethnic minority groups	C1 / C2	Some of these groups have suffered historic discrimination and economic and political marginalization and more recently, the brunt of the conflict. They will need special. attention.
Potential community workers	C1 / C2	Within the communities, some individuals with some level of education exist, but not enough to take up jobs in the cities. Therefore, they are important resources that could be used. The project will need to sensitively manage expectations among affected communities concerning. the actual number of persons who can be hired to work for the project.

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Local community leadership including religious leaders	C1 / C2	With formal administration systems only developing and non-existent in some areas, community leaders including clan and religious leaders play a vital role in community entry and the attainment and social license to operate. They need to be engaged in community consultation and the endorsement of community decisions.

Table 5 below identifies these groups and describes their expected project engagement.

Table 5: Other Interested Parties

Stakeholder Group	Expected RALP AF2 Project Engagement/Interest
Members of the *Boma* Development Committees(BDCs) and *Payam* Development Committees(PDCs)	BDCs and PDCs are semi-formal community institutions responsible for supporting the planning and implementation of local development initiatives, and therefore critical in community sensitization and in discussions on sub- project implementation.
Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS)	Borrower/ Project Manager. MAFS will also receive capacity buildingsupport.
Ministry of Livestock andFisheries	- Ministerial representatives will be part of the Project Steering Committee(PSC) to provide technical expertise on livestock and fisheries sub-components.
Government ministries - MAFS, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MOFEP) and Governors of participating states	These Government representatives will comprise the Project Steering Committee (PSC), providing high-level oversight and overall guidance on project implementation.
International NGOs, localand national CSOs and NGOs operating in the agriculture, health, education, livelihood sectors	With most having invaluable experience in the successful delivery of a wide range of humanitarian services, their networks, delivery systems and knowledge of intricate community dynamics will need to be tapped for use by the project.
Local Businessand Construction Companies	These are local enterprises that will provide various input supplies andconstruction services.
FAO	Lead technical implementing partner
World Bank	Donor
Other UN agencies and entities (UNMISS, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP, UNOPS, UNEP)	All organizations working in project locations are stakeholders and close coordination would add value e.g., security (UNMISS), GBV referral services(UNFPA)
World Food Programme (WFP)	Supports school gardens and the existing WFP warehouse network, and undertakes grain procurement and stock management for the Strategic Grain Reserve on behalf of the Government under the Government–WFP Framework Agreement (PBC 3), with technical support to FAO under a UN-to-UN agreement; coordinates with the project on food assistance to avoid duplication. Required to apply for the ESCP

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	and this SEP, operate the GRM and SEA/SH channels, and report monthly on E&S performance.
Voucher recipients and participating vendors	Recipients (food-insecure households) need clear targeting criteria and complaint channels; vendors need rules on pricing, fair dealing, labour and SEA/SH conduct. Risks include diversion, elite capture, exclusion and market effects.
Strategic Grain Reserve suppliers and warehouse operators	Grain suppliers and operators of the existing WFP-managed warehouses used for the SGR (the project does not finance new public warehouses) are subject to supplier screening (including child labour and sourcing), occupational health and safety, storage and fumigation requirements, and grievance access.
Schools, teachers, parents and school-garden participants	Engaged on school-garden activities, child safeguarding, safe use of inputs and tools, and the participation of children.
Customary land institutions (chiefs, land committees, community leaders)	Key to the land tenure pilot, voluntary land donation and customary rights documentation; engaged on consent, verification, boundaries and dispute resolution.
Fish traders and fisheries associations	Engaged on fish post-harvest handling, landing sites, market access and wetland-use rules.
Environmental protection and veterinary authorities (EPA, pesticide and veterinary regulators)	Permitting, oversight of pesticide and veterinary product use, waste disposal and laboratory standards.
Food Security Council, National Food and Nutrition Security Council and Directorate of Food Reserve / National Food Reserve Agency	Government bodies responsible for the SGR policy, operational manual, release decisions and preparedness planning; engaged on disclosure of SGR release rules, performance-based conditions and Joint Monitoring Reports.
Community-Based Disaster Risk Management Committees (CBDRMCs), extension officers and Community Animal Health Workers	CBDRMCs (to be expanded to all 17 counties), extension officers (260 re-engaged plus up to 60 new) and CAHWs are the community-level channel for early-warning messages, training and awareness of the GRM.
Natural Resource Management Committees and local land institutions	Engaged under the land tenure pilot (participatory land-use planning, documentation of customary rights, Land Information System procedures) in the pilot county.

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3.1 Disadvantaged/vulnerable individuals or groups

These are stakeholders that are considered to face challenges in participation or accessing project information, activities, or benefits, by virtue of their circumstances. Table 6 below identifies these groups and describes the additional support they require.

Table 6: Disadvantaged / vulnerable individuals or groups

Vulnerable Group	Limitations to participation in/consultation with the Project	Additional support/resources to be. made available
Women and girls	They are typically left out of decision-making processes and political representation, leading to local and community-based neglect and misrepresentation	Liaise with county authorities and traditional leaders like chiefs to map out these groups, and where possible assess their vulnerability and needs.
Female-headed households/ widows	Decisions that do not account for their unique needs and capacities. This produces a ripple effect on labor or economic opportunities and educational opportunities. Customary land tenure systems block women from securing and owning property2. The risk of sexual violence negatively affects women´s ability to access income and resources. Women suffer greater food insecurity due to their cultural and social roles as caregivers and they may forego or pass on food within families. This places up to 80 percent of displaced households at risk, as they are predominantly female-headed. They are also limited in land tenure and access to productive assets for agricultural production.	Work through female community representatives in the affected communities, to identify suitable venues and timing for dedicated consultations and support for childcare. Provide safe spaces to discuss GBV-SEA and provide information on Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) and relevant referral pathways.
Youth	Young people have largely been excluded from political life, including through the age- based systems of authority that prevails in some parts of South Sudan. Approximately 30 percent of them also do not have access to education, economic activities, negatively affecting their capacity to contribute towards agricultural production and value chain services.	Targeted consultation to enable meaningful participation in the project implementation.

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Minority ethnic groups	The RALP/AF will work in areas that are both government and opposition-controlled, conflict-affected or have significant minority populations. Ethnic minorities may occur at different levels, in the state or even inside the county. Here they may be dominated by authorities from other groups and may have little decision-making power.	Utilize PDCs and BDCs and other local community representatives to identifyand mobilize minority groups to participate in meetings and consultations. Also provide local language interpreters to ensure understanding and ability to give feedback during engagement.
Internally Displaced People (IDPs)/Refugees	IDPs and refugees are likely to encounter challenges in accessing land for cultivation or adopting new livelihoods e.g., pastoralists in predominantly cropping host communities.	They will be kept informed aboutmeetings and consultations via other community members in the area, and potentially through radio and social media. Meetings will only be held during daytime in view of security concerns.
Returnees	Returning people going back to their places of origin are also more likely to encounter competition in accessing basic resources like shelter and water, hindering their ability to participate in development activities.	Utilize PDCs and BDCs and other local community representatives to identify and mobilize minority groups to participate in meetings and consultations.

[2] Shelter NFI Cluster South Sudan (2017) "Key Housing, Land and Property (HLP) Issues in Urban Areas of South Sudan".

Persons with disabilities (PWD) and their caregivers	The main challenges faced by people with disabilities are access to basic services such as water, sanitation and hygiene and discrimination that hinders their participation in social, political, and economic life, including agricultural production. Women with disabilities experience higher levels of physical, psychological, and sexual violence.	All venues for consultations, workshops and meetings should be selected with a view to facilitate physical access for PWD. Where necessary avail sign-language interpreters.
Children and school-garden participants	Children are exposed to hazards in school gardens (tools, inputs, standing water) and to child-labour and SEA/SH risks; they cannot self-advocate in consultations.	Consult through schools, teachers and parents with child-safeguarding protocols; child-friendly GRM channels; no child labour; safe-use rules for inputs and tools; trained focal teachers.
Elderly persons	Mobility, hearing and literacy constraints limit attendance at meetings and use of phone-based channels; risk of exclusion from voucher registration.	Household visits, oral and radio formats, trusted intermediaries, venues close to homes, assistance during voucher registration and collection.
IDPs and returnees in Rubkona and Awerial	IDPs and returnees in Rubkona and Awerial face limited access to land, tension with host communities and heightened exposure to SEA/SH; access to meetings may be mediated by gatekeepers [to be validated through	Dedicated consultations and FGDs by community, women-only sessions, interpreters, outreach through camp committees and humanitarian partners, GRM desks in settlements.

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	the consultations].	
Host communities and minority pastoralists (including nomadic groups)	Seasonal movement, exclusion from local structures and competition over wetland, rangeland and water resources.	Seasonal and mobile outreach, radio and mobile phone, consultation with pastoralist leaders and interpreters in the minority language, inclusion in land tenure pilot consultations.
Households excluded from voucher assistance	Perceived or real exclusion from voucher targeting can cause conflict, grievances and retaliation.	Public disclosure of targeting criteria, community validation, appeals and a time-bound grievance process, with independent verification by the TPM.

Vulnerable groups within the communities affected by the project will be further confirmed and consulted through dedicated means, as appropriate, during the location-specific stakeholders' engagement. A description of the methods of engagement that will be undertaken by the project is provided in the following sections.

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Table 7: Summary of project stakeholder, engagement method and their needs

Community	Stakeholder Group	Key Characteristics	Language requirements	Preferred notification means (email, radio, phone, letter)	Specific needs (accessibility, large print, child care, daytime meetings etc.)
Boma and Payam Level[3]	Small farmer households	Influencing Party - Local communities residing in project areas	Local languages	Word of mouth from local authorities, radio, telephone, community meetings	Clear information dissemination on project activities, hotlines and functional GRM mechanisms for enquiries and grievance lodging. Regular meetings for information delivery
	Small pastoralist households	Influencing Party – Local communities with possible nomadic movement patterns	Local languages	Mobile phone, radio, community meetings	May require communication means that are independent of locality (e.g. mobile phone or radio). Effective community mobilization for sensitization
	Women and girls	Vulnerable Group - Often not integrated in communal decision-making processes	Local languages	Word of mouth from local authorities, engagement with community officers, radio	Dedicated meetings/FGDs with women, and mechanisms to empower women to ensure their participation in meetings, including the sensitization of men so that the voices of women and girls are heard effectively. Flexible scheduling to be tailored to household responsibilities with support for childcare to enable women to participate optimally.
	Youth	Vulnerable Group - Often not integrated in communal decision-making processes	Local languages	Word of mouth from local authorities, engagement with community officers, radio	Meaningful inclusion in consultations and project activities to enable their empowerment. This will also require the sensitization of men and community leaders so that the voices of youth are heard effectively.
	IDPs and Returnees	Vulnerable Group - Residing mostly in IDP camps, which	Local languages	Word of mouth from local authorities and engagement with community officers	Security concerns e.g., hold meetings during day time through their leaders. Consultations including FGDs.

		may be controlled by gatekeepers			
	Ethnic minority groups	Vulnerable Group - Not represented in local authority structures, generally discriminated against bymajority clans, and therefore often not considered decision-making processes, and difficult to access services	English and Local languages – language of the minority group (prerequisite for uccessful involvement of small minority groups).	Word of mouth from local authorities, engagement with community officers, mobile phone, radio, community meetings	Depending on the group, some live in one location, whereas others are spread throughout communities, including living in IDP camps/settlements.
	Persons with disabilities	Vulnerable Group - Often not included in decision-making processes, and more likely to be excluded from public services and participation	Local languages	Mobile phone, radio, community meetings, and other media, depending on accessibility needs	Consider working with NGOs focusing on disabilities to ensure full reach of disabled persons in the affected States, including through use of media (e.g. Braille, sign language, etc.,) and locations that are accessible and appropriate to ensure their participation.
	Female-headed households	Vulnerable Group - Often Not integrated in communal decision- making processes	Local languages	Mobile phone, radio	Inclusion in project benefits and access to GBV services as required.
	General community members	Potentially Influencing Party – Local communities in project areas	Local languages	Word of mouth from local authorities, notice board, community meetings, radio	Involvement in community Engagement and information dissemination.

	Potential community workers	Potentially Influencing Party - Local communities in project areas	Local languages	Word of mouth from local authorities and notice board, community meetings, radio	Contribute to the workforce of subprojects and require involvement in community engagement and information dissemination
	Members of the BDCs and PDCs	Potentially Influencing Party – Usually must deal with all concerns of the communities	English and local languages	Phone calls, word of mouth from local authorities, meetings	Very important body - link between the community, the county and development partners. Contact should be initiated on a weekly basis during implementation
	Traditional leadership and local religious leaders	Potentially Influencing Party - Their authority will depend on the presence And strength of community leaders of othergroups; they can have significant influence in the communities	Local languages	Phone calls, word of mouth from local authorities, meetings	Regular contact, at least monthly during implementation
County Level	Staff of County Agriculture Departments and County Department of Livestock Departments	Influencing Party - Usually work with communities to support agricultural activities including livestock and fisheries	English, local Arabic and local language	Email, telephone calls, meetings (in person or virtual)	Roles and responsibilities in project implementation including support in stakeholder engagements, information dissemination and grievance redress. Need for close coordination and two-way information sharing for smooth implementation and adaptive management throughout the project cycle. Contact should be initiated on a weekly basis during implementation.

State Level	Governors of participating States in the Project Steering Committee	Influencing Party	English, and Arabic	Email, telephone calls, meetings (in person or virtual)	Roles and responsibilities in project implementation including support in stakeholder engagements, information dissemination and grievance redress. Need for close coordination and information sharing for smooth implementation. Contact should be initiated on a monthly basis during implementation.
	Business community/ Construction Companies	Potentially Influencing Party	English and Arabic	Email, telephone calls, meetings (in person or virtual)	There are many business companies in the counties, though they would need some basic training on environmental, social and fiduciary safeguards. Contact should be established at least on a bi-annual basis
National Level[4]	Ministries involved in the Project Steering Committee (MOFEP, MAFS, MLFs)	Potentially Influencing Party	English and Arabic	Memo/letter, email, telephone calls, meetings (in person or virtual)	Roles and responsibilities including support in stakeholder engagements, information dissemination and grievance redress. Meetings on at least semi-annual basis, Written briefs and project updates
	Project Technical Coordination Committees (Undersecretary for Food Security-MAFS; Director Generals/Heads of technical Directorates in MAFS; representative Ministry of Finance – Directorate of Aid Coordination; representatives from the MLFs; and MAFS representatives in the participating state and counties)	Potentially Influencing Party	English and Arabic	Memo/letter, email, telephone calls, meetings (in person or virtual)	Roles and responsibilities including support in stakeholder engagements, information dissemination and grievance redress. Meetings on at least semi- annual basis, Written briefs and project updates
	FAO and the World Bank	Potentially Influencing Party	English	Email, telephone calls, memo, meetings (in person or virtual)	Preparation and implementation support as well as training and capacity building. Meetings on a regular basis
	Other Development Partners (donors, UN agencies etc.)	Interested Party	English	Email, telephone & radios	Meetings on a regular basis

	National NGOs, international NGOs	Interested Party	English	Email, telephone, meetings (in person or virtual)	Preparation and implementation support as well as training and capacity building. Communication and meetings on a regular basis

4. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

4.1 Purpose and timing of the stakeholder engagement program

Project preparation has relied significantly on national-level stakeholder engagement to gain an understanding of the needs of the project Counties, as well as existing capacities and coordination mechanisms at national, State, and County levels.

Stakeholder engagement plans has been updated and adapted for AF2; it can only be reupdated with change in project scope, stakeholders and implementation arrangements. However, it is anticipated that the five purposes of consultations and information dissemination in theRALP/AF are:

(a) Adapting project interventions to the evolving needs of the affected populations.
(b) Ensuring coordination between all implementers and government and community authority structures.
(c) Reception of feedback and comments as well as grievances from all stakeholders on project design, and implementation, and to adapt the project accordingly.
(d) Provision of transparent and accountable mechanisms on all aspects of Project implementation and monitoring; and
(e) Ensuring that members of vulnerable groups from project-affected communities can participate fully in the consultation process and enjoy project benefits. To ensure this, a GRM will be in place throughout the life cycle of the Project and will be set up in a way that all affected individuals and groups can report on project-related grievances or provide comments and feedback.

In addition, the SEP and ESCP will be disclosed before Appraisal, and the draft ESMF will be disclosed before Appraisal and the updated ESMF cleared before Effectiveness, in each case on MAFS and World Bank websites as well as at the county level in counties targeted by the project to ensure that everyone is informed about socialand environmental risks and respective mitigation measures. The project will innovate ways for consultations to be effective and meaningful to meet project and stakeholder needs, in consideration of communities affected by floods, drought, insecurity and displacement. Strategies to be employed include smaller meetings, and small FGDs to be conducted as appropriate taking full precautions on staff and community safety. Where meetings are not permitted, traditional channels of communication such asradios and public announcements will be implemented. Other strategies will include one-on-one interviews by phone or video call for community representatives, CSOs and other interest groups.Community facilitators, who will be part of this process, will also enable two-way communication by way of collecting views from community members of various key groups such as men, women, and other vulnerable groups.

4.2 Proposed strategy for information disclosure

Information disclosure to the beneficiary communities and other interested parties will rely on the following key methods: radio broadcasting, community meetings in coordination with local authorities (county governments, BDCs and PDCs), phone communication (SMS), and notices at the payam and boma level. Information will be disclosed in English and in the languages of each county, using oral and radio formats suited to low literacy, with a language and radio-station list for Rubkona, Awerial, Twic, Juba and each existing county [to be specified by the Social specialist in the county-specific SEPs]. Printed notices will be accompanied by community announcements and, for persons with disabilities, accessible formats (large print, sign language or assisted reading). Local authorities, such as traditional authorities, religious leaders, and county government will be requested to inform communities in community meetings and through disclosure at project locations. In addition, the ESCP, ESMF and other relevant environmental and social risk management instruments will be publicly disclosed on MAFS and World Bank websites. Stakeholders will also be encouraged to provide feedback, raise queries on gaps and suggest solutions to enable the improvement of project implementation.

Table 8 stakeholder engagement program

Project Stage	Information to be disclosed	Methods proposed	Timetable: Locations / dates	Target stakeholders	Percentage reached	Responsibilities
Project Design	SEP (including GRM)	Email, websites, radio, community meetings, community boards, church/ mosque, markets, social events etc.	SEP disclosed before Appraisal, in-country at county level and in local languages	Affected and beneficiary communities, potential community workers, all vulnerable groups etc.	Target: all and of at leastbeneficiaries 80% ofaffects beneficicommunities ary house olds and 100% of county, payam and boma authorit ies in each county; women at least 50% of those reached in commu nity events	SPCU
	ESCP	Email, websites, stakeholder meetings	ESCP disclosed before Appraisal; cleared by the Bank before Effectiveness	All national, state and county level stakeholders	Target: 100% of national, state and county-level stakeholders (via PSC/TCC, website and county offices)	SPCU
	ESMF including GRM	Email, websites, stakeholder meetings	Draft ESMF disclosed and consulted before Appraisal; cleared by the Bank before	All stakeholders identified	Target: 100% of national, state and county-level stakeholders, and at least 60% of beneficiary communities in each county (radio and community meetings)	SPCU

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			Effectiveness			
Project Initiation and Implementation	Activity – or site-specific screening reports and ESMPs	Community meetings, radio, mobile phone, email, website	Continuous	County level Stakeholders and affected communities	Target: at least 70% of communities and county stakeholders in the affected area, before works start	SPIU
	Any project-related information (on activities, beneficiary selection etc.)	Community meetings, radio, mobile phone, email, website	Continuous	All stakeholders identified	Target: at least 70% of beneficiaries and communities per county, disaggregated by sex and by displaced and host populations	SPMU
	GRM	Community meetings, radio, free mobile phone, email, website	Continuous	All stakeholders identified	Target: GRM known to at least 80% of beneficiaries in each county, including the four new counties, before activities start (hotline 515 and 882)	PCU, PMU and PIU
	Project Reports	Community meetings, radio, mobile phone, email, website	Quarterly, Bi-annual and Annually	All stakeholders identified	Target: 100% of reports posted at county level and shared with stakeholders each quarter; radio summary in local languages	PCU and PMU

4.3 Proposed strategy for consultation

This plan lays out the overall consultative processes of the project with its different stakeholders. In principle, MAFS, FAO and potential IPs that oversee sub-component activities will follow their existing participatory engagement and consultation methods, especially with affected communities and beneficiaries. These will make use of specific tools and methods of community consultations that FAO and IPs have developed in experience. The Project will ensure that these tools and methods fulfilthe requirements outlined throughout this document and are in line with the ESF. In case any additional needs arise from identified deficiencies or from context changes, the project will adapt accordingly. The GRM will be another means of consultation, as complaints received will be filed, assessed and responded to, or addressed

To ensure coordination with the Government of South Sudan, high-level oversight and overall guidance on project implementation will be provided by the Project Steering Committee (PSC) comprising the Minister for Finance and Economic Planning (MOFEP), Minister for Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS), Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, and Governors of participating States. The PSC will meet at least twice a year.

Table 9: Strategy for Consultation

Project Stage	Topic of Consultation	Suggested Method	Timetable: location anddates	Target stakeholders	Responsibilities
Project Design	Overall Project component and activities	PSC, TCC, radio, community meetings	Juba, before Appraisal	Project affected parties	SPCU
	SEP (including Grievance mechanisms)	Radio, community meetings, notice boards at county, payam and boma level	Juba/ County/ Payams Before Appraisal	Project- affected and potentially influencing parties	SPCU and PMU
	ESCP	Using Website, PSC, TCC, email	Juba, before Appraisal	Project- affected and potentially influencing parties	SPCU
	ESMF	Using Website, PSC, TCC, email	Juba Draft ESMF consulted before Appraisal; cleared before Effectiveness	Project- affected and potentially influencing parties	SPCU
	Voucher targeting criteria,	Community meetings, radio,	Rubkona, Awerial, Twic, Juba and	Beneficiary and non-beneficiary households,	WFP/FAO/PMU

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	registration, complaint channels and appeals	women-only and PWD sessions, notice boards	existing counties; before voucher distribution starts and before Appraisal for design [dates to be inserted]	vendors, local leaders	
	Strategic Grain Reserve release rules, storage sites, supplier screening and grievance access	Stakeholder meetings, community meetings near storage sites, radio	Juba and the counties hosting the existing WFP-managed warehouses used for the SGR; before Appraisal and before any SGR activity [dates to be inserted]	Government (MAFS/MOFEP), WFP, suppliers, warehouse operators, host communities	PCU/WFP
	Land tenure pilot process, voluntary land donation, consent, verification and FPIC applicability	Community meetings with customary institutions, FGDs with women, youth and pastoralists	The land tenure pilot county (selected through the agreed technical and social assessment); before the pilot starts and before Appraisal for design [dates to be inserted]	Customary land institutions, landholders, women, pastoralists, county land authorities	PMU/PCU with FAO
Project Initiation	Introduction to the project and the role of various stakeholders	Stakeholder meeting conference /	Juba / State / County	National Government / State / County / Payam	SPCU
Project Implementation	Construction/Farming/training	Community meetings, notice boards at county, Payam and boma level	Boma / Payam	Project-Affected and potentially influencing parties	FAO/IP
	Early-warning dissemination and expansion of CBDRMCs to all 17 counties; Joint Monitoring Reports	Community meetings, community radio, solar-powered radios, CBDRMCs	All 17 counties; during the first year of implementation [dates to be inserted]	CBDRMCs, communities, county authorities, extension officers	PCU/FAO

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	Training and Grants for farmer and farmer organizations	Community meetings, notice boards at county, payam and boma level	Boma / Payam	Project-Affected and potentially influencing parties	FAO/IP
	Sub-project ESMPs or ESIAs	Community meetings, notice boards at county, payam and boma level	Boma/ Payam	Project-Affected and potentially influencing parties	FAO/IP/PCU

4.4 Proposed strategy to incorporate the views of vulnerable groups.

FAO and each IP will ensure that women, the youth, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities and other members of vulnerable groups participate effectively and meaningfully in consultative processes and that their voices are not ignored. This will require specific measures and assistance to afford opportunities for meetings with vulnerable groups in addition to general community consultations. For example, women are usually more outspoken in women-only consultation meetingsthan in general community meetings. Similarly, separate meetings need to be held with young people,persons with disabilities or with ethnic or other minority groups. The more dominant groups will be sensitized so that they can accept the voices of the vulnerable. Further, it is important to rely on otherconsultation methods as well, which do not require physical participation in meetings, such as social media, SMS, or radio broadcasting, where feasible, to ensure that groups that cannot physically be present at meetings can participate. Where this is not possible, community facilitators will visit households of vulnerable people, in particular the elderly and persons with disabilities that are not able to attend communal meetings.

In view of promoting youth and women's empowerment, it is most important to engage youth and women's groups on an ongoing basis throughout the project lifecycle. By voicing their concerns and contribution in the decision-making process on issues pertaining to community developmental infrastructure should be encouraged, especially in governmental or traditional committees predominantly consisting of men. IPs are similarly encouraged to deploy female staff, in particular where staff interface with community members. GRMs have been established in existing counties and will be set up in new counties where all groups identified as vulnerable (see below) have access to the information and can submit their grievances and receive feedback as prescribed.

In accordance with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) Articles 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16; RALP AF2 will ensure that women will not only enjoy their right to social security on an equal basis to men, but also to undertake appropriate special measures to provide them with equal opportunities in public life, training programs from the project, employment, economic and social life. To redress disadvantages associated with gender, bothcontributory and non-contributory social protection measures will be made gender sensitive. This means contributory programmes considering the factors that prevent women from making equal contributions, such as intermittent participation in the workforce on account of care responsibilities and unequal wage outcomes. Meanwhile, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR's) General Comment 19 points out that non-contributory programmes should consider that women are more likely to live in poverty than men and often have sole responsibility forthe care of children. In any case, States have obligations to consider the whole range of women's rights. CEDAW points out that states must take appropriate measures to modify the social

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patterns that accord differential status to men and women (Article 5) and ensure the equality of women in rural areas (Article 14) as well.

In light that, RALP AF2 will ensure that it is child-sensitive in its implementation, for example; prohibiting child labor. The Committee on the Rights of theChild (CRC) Preamble, Articles 2 and 23, emphasizes that the best interests of children should be always respected and their special needs should be accommodated. A child-sensitive social protection within the project will ensure the rights of the child and consider all the factors that might place children in a vulnerable position. RALP AF2 will factor in age- and gender-specific risks and vulnerabilities at each stage of the implementation, especially considering the needs of families with children. Special provisions will be made for children without parental care and those who are marginalized within their families due to gender, disability, ethnicity, HIV/AIDS status, or other markers of identity. To achieve these ends, it is necessary that intra-household dynamics be carefully considered, including the balanceof power between men and women. RALP AF2 will adhere to the voices and opinions of children and youth, and their caregivers during implementation processes.

Persons with disabilities face various impediments to the enjoyment of their human rights, and thus RALP AF2 will advance social protection activities to employ the utmost sensitivity regarding their needs. These will include effective coverage and access to support services as well as information and other facilities. RALP AF2 will uphold principles such as respect for inherent dignity, individual autonomy including the freedom to make one's own choices, and independence of persons; non-discrimination; full and effective participation and inclusion in project activities; respect for difference and acceptance of persons with disabilities as part of human diversity and humanity; equality of opportunity; accessibility; and equality between men and women.

Various other characteristics, such as ethnicity, health status, sexual orientation or geographical location can also impede the equal enjoyment by some people of their economic, social, and cultural rights, including their right to social security. Each of these characteristics will be considered when RALP AF will be implemented. Inclusion of those who are disadvantaged and marginalized is the first step, but it is not enough. The provision of quality social services needed by different groups is equally important within the project context.

4.5 Timelines

The project is planned for the period until the AF2 closing date of 23 February 2029 (the closing dates of the parent and AF1 grants remain 23 February 2027, as per the Project Paper). The stakeholder consultations shall be conducted throughout the project lifecycle. It was conducted during the preparation of the project and will be conducted throughout project implementation. Information disclosure and consultations during project implementation will include monthly visits and meetings with community leaders and regular meetings with *Payam*/county authorities. Activities under each sub-component will include further consultations prior to their commencement to ensure a clear criteria for selecting beneficiaries, transparency and accountability on project modalities, and to allow community voices to form the basis of the concrete design of every intervention and consultations will continue throughout the project cycle.

The updated SEP, and the local specific details will be prepared prior to commencement of the subproject activities depending on the local context. The site-specific SEP, including mapping of stakeholders, engagement and integration of voices is linked to the ESCP. Consultations will be done during acquisition of voluntary land donation (VLD) and preparation of ESMPs as required. The consultations conducted and agreement reached during consultations with the different stakeholders shall be documented and VLD consent form signed. Refusal not to take part in the consultation by the stakeholder shall be respected and no stakeholder shall be enforced to take-part in the consultations. For community land, all individuals using or occupying the land must be consented or agree, and

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communities are expected to benefit directly from the project. Where any community land is voluntarily donated for project use, consent will be documented in writing (or by recorded witnessed thumbprint where participants are not literate), signed by the landholding community's representatives (including women and youth representatives) and by individual users of the land, after tenure and use rights have been verified through the customary land institutions and the county land authority. Verification will be carried out by the PMU Social specialists and independently sampled by the TPM before any donated land is used; no person may be economically displaced and every donor will have access to the GRM.

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4.6 Review and Integration of Stakeholder Consultations

FAO and the IPs implementing different sub-components of the project will gather all comments and inputs originating from community meetings, SMS, GRM outcomes, surveys and FGDs. The information gathered will be submitted to the PMU – specifically to the Social and Environmental Risk Management Officers - to ensure that the project has general information on the perception of communities, and that it remains on target. The MAFS PCU will provide overall oversight. It will be the responsibility of the IPs to respond to comments and inputs, and to keep open a feedback line to the communities, as well as the local authorities.

Training on environmental and social standards and other environmental and social requirements facilitated by SPCU and FAO-PMU will be provided soon afterthe project becomes effective to ensure that all implementing staff are equipped with the necessary skills.

This SEP provides the overarching guidelines for rolling out the stakeholder engagements. While this SEP will be refined once the different communication and consultation modalities of the technical leadscan be elaborated on, the guiding principles will remain in place. The environmental and social safeguards specialists within the PCU and PMU will continue to monitor the capacity of the IPs, and recommend appropriate actions, e.g., refresher training, and frequent field visits.

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5. RESOURCES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR IMPLEMENTING STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

5.1 Resources

Stakeholder engagement is core to the project interventions and will be the daily responsibility of project staff working at community level when facilitating the organization of groups and other activities. Therefore, all human resources mobilized by the project (MAFS, FAO and implementing partners) will be primarily engaged in the process on an on-going basis. The project will recruit ten (10) FAO Environmental and Social Risks Management Officers at PMU, and one field-based staff per county, plus a county E&S/GRM focal point in each of the four new counties [to be re-costed given the 17-county coverage] dedicated to guiding the process of stakeholder engagement, and GRM with particular groups suchas women, IDPs/ returnees; minority groups. The project budget will cover their costs.

Budgetary resources will be dedicated to the implementation of the SEP through formulation of location specific SEPs for each subproject and their implementation. While there will be an overall budget administered by the PMU to monitor SEPs and other ESMF activities, FAO and IPs will have dedicated budget resources to implement the SEPs as part of the integral project costs for each activity. Funding sources and amounts for the SEP, GRM, hotline, accessibility and translation lines in Table 10 will be confirmed by FAO, WFP and the PCU before Appraisal.

The table below gives estimates of the budgetary allocations made for stakeholder engagement during the implementation of the AF2

Table 10: **Estimated Budget**

Stakeholder Engagement Activities	**Quantity**	**Unit Cost USD**	**No. of Years**	**Total Cost USD**
GRM Officers	[to be confirmed – see comment]	1,100 per month	2	264,000
Logistics and travel expenses of staff (cost per year)	Lumpsum	12,000 per year	2	48,000
Communication materials (leaflets, posters, PR kits including design)	Lumpsum			10,000
Community sensitization and training (Social issues, GRM, LMP, GBV, Health and Safety)	13[2]	20,000	2	40,000
Community consultations on GRM (harmonization of customary with WB/project mechanism)	14[3]	2,500	2	14,000
Community meetings/forums on project updates and feedback	Lumpsum		5	5,000
Accessibility formats for persons with disabilities (large print, sign language, assisted reading) and interpretation	[To be costed]	[ ]	[ ]	[To be costed]
Translation and radio production in county languages (including Rubkona, Awerial, Twic	[To be costed]	[ ]	[ ]	[To be costed]

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and Juba)				
Hotline (515 for general grievances; 882 dedicated to SEA/SH) operation and call-center costs	[To be costed]	[ ]	[ ]	[To be costed]
Site-specific SEPs and consultations in the four new counties, before Appraisal and before activities	4 counties	[To be costed]	1	[To be costed]
GRM Officers and county focal points for 17 counties (re-costed)	[To be confirmed]	1,100 per month	2	[To be costed]
TOTAL				**To be updated after re-costing]**

[1] GRM Officers

[2] Trainings

[3] Consultation meetings

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5.2 Management functions and responsibilities

The overall responsibility for the implementation of the SEP lies with the PMU Project Manager, overseen on a day-to-day basis by the PMU Environmental and Social Risks Management Officers, with oversight from the PCU. The Officers will maintain a stakeholder database for the overall project and will lead a commitment register. However, while the PCU and PMU will oversee all coordination and disclosure-related consultations, FAO and IPs will implement the location specific SEPs elaborated in accordance with the ESF at the community level in their respective project sites and will report on their activities to the PMU Social and Environmental Risks Management Officers on a monthly basis. The PMU and PCU Officers will undertake field verification activities jointly with IPs – at least every three months (quarterly), or during planned or ad hoc events.

Each IP will identify dedicated staff responsible for the implementation of the SEP within the organization. Staff names will be submitted to the PMU. Selected staff must have required qualifications to implement the SEP, as stipulated by terms of reference jointly developed with FAO. They will also receive training cascaded from FAO Training of Trainers on stakeholder engagement. The reporting lines between community liaison staff and senior management will be defined by FAO's organizational structure. IPs will also commit to communicate the stakeholder engagement strategies for their respective sub-components, in accordance with the principles laid out in this SEP.

IPs who will contract local companies for construction work, or local NGOs or CSOs for the implementation of their activities will submit SEPs to the PMU Social and Environmental Risk Management Officers, who will verify the implementation of those plans as well as their alignment to this SEP during field visits with PCU Safeguards Officers.

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6. GRIEVANCE MECHANISM

The main objective of a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) is to assist resolve complaints in a timely, effective and efficient manner. Project-level GRMs can provide the most effective way for people to raise issues and concerns about project that affect them. The project-level GRM will be culturally appropriate, effective, accessible and should be known to all affected populations. FAO will establish GRM in new locations and conduct awareness raising for the affected communities in existing counties about the presence of the GRM and informtheir right to file any concerns, complaints and issues they have related to the RALP AF2. The GRM provides a transparent and credible process for fair, effective and lasting outcome. It also builds trust and cooperation as an integral component of broader community consultation that facilitatescorrective actions. Resources will be allocated for the GRM in the project.

All grievances received through hotlines are directed to the call center, the helpline operator will follow up internally as per the established procedures and policies. The helpline operator is responsible to ensure the feedback loop is closed by informing the complainant of its rights and the on-going redress process. Grievances lodged through established structures shall directed to Appeals committee for documentation, resolution and referral where necessary. All cases are treated confidential. Based on the information made available, aggrieved parties can decide whether they have a case to report or whether the available information clarifies their concern. This will allow the aggrieved party to decide on the appropriate next step to reportgrievance, comment or provide feedback to the project. PMU in close collaboration with the IPs at the state level will decide whether the grievance can be solved locally, with local authorities, implementers, or contractors and whether an investigation is required, according to early diagnosticof GRM system operationality. The GRM/AAP focal point – the first point of call - will have in-depth knowledge of communal socio-political structures and will therefore be able to address the appropriate individuals if the case can be solved at the local level.

The main project GRM steps are:

- Step 1: Collection and access through different channels. GRM/AAP focal point and PMU might be informed on any grievance.
- Step 2: Acknowledgement to the complainant of the received complaints and immediate measures to be taken by the IP if needed to protect complainants during the grievance redress process.
- Step 3: Supporting traditional redress when available with implication, if relevant, of IP representative and key observatory actors as the AAP local staff and the Legal Third Party. A technical background from Technical Officer from PMU will investigate the grievance

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and the resolution to ensure WB ESS compliance. A continuous update of the grievance situation will be managed by the E&S risk management officers.

- Step 4: Local grievance resolution. Acknowledgment of the E&S risk management officers of the adequacy with the WB ESS. Complementary measures taken by PMU to ensure ESS adequacy and respect for the complainant's rights. In case of agreement between parties,the case is closed.
- Step 5: If there is no agreement with the complainants, they can apply for an independent assessment by the OIG.

  Step 6: If there is no agreement with the decision from the OIG, the complainants can apply to the WB Grievance Redress Service (GRS).

  These steps are summarized in Figure 2 below. Further information on the project GRM is detailed in the main text of the ESMF.

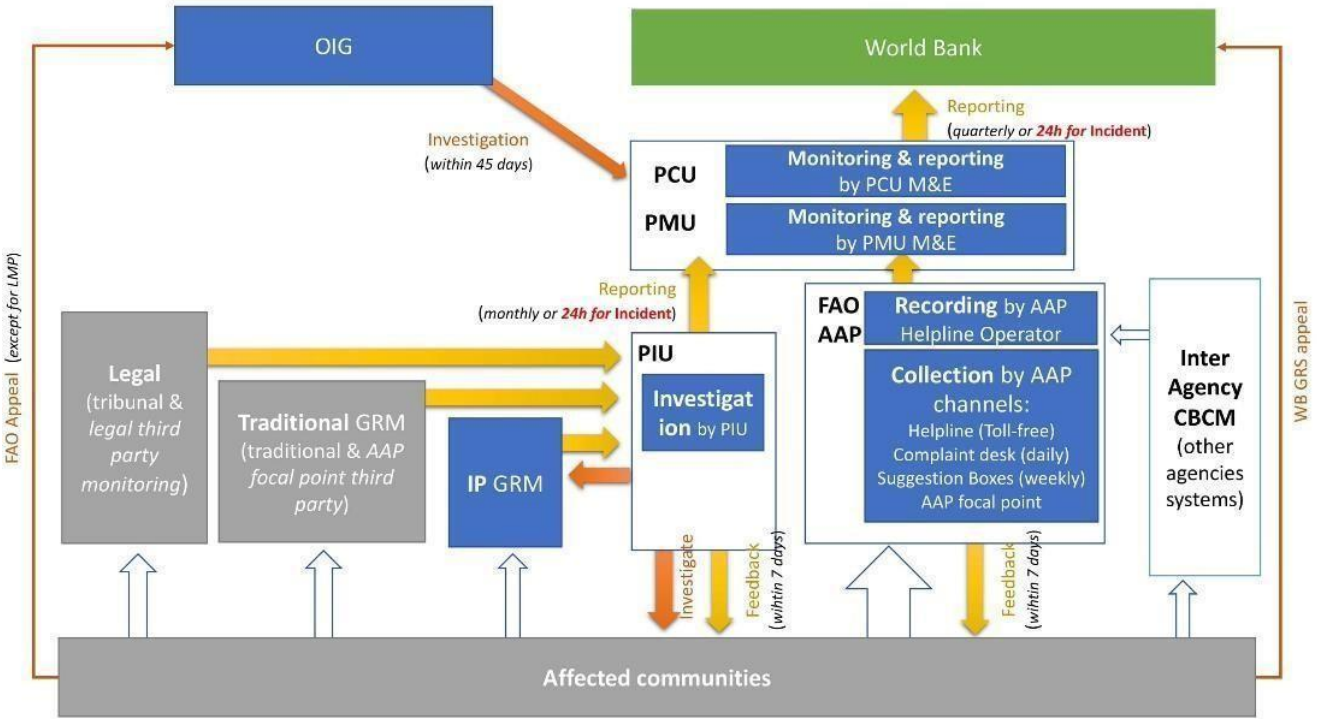


Figure 2: RALP/AF Grievance Redress Mechanism Flowchart

The project will also establish and operate a separate grievance mechanism for all direct and contracted workers to raise workplace concerns, as provided under ESS2. Grievances related to GBV-SEA and Labour will follow specific GRM processes detailed respectively in the Framework for Addressing Gender-Based and Child Violence, Sexual Exploitation and Harassment against Women and Children (FGBCV-SEH-WC) and the Labour Management Procedures. Cases of GBV-SEA can be reported through a FAO toll free number (882) solely dedicated for PSEA or through the general Project GRM. This will be made explicit in all community awareness sessions and be a part of the publicly disclosed information. The GBV-SEA referral system will guarantee that survivors receive all necessary services, including medical, legal and counselling, and cases will be referred to the police only with the informed consent of the survivor (survivor-centred approach: consent, confidentiality, safety and non-discrimination). Case files will record only the minimum data needed (nature of the incident, age and sex of the survivor, whether the alleged perpetrator is linked to the project, and referrals made), without identifying details, and will be stored securely

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with restricted access. SEA/SH cases linked to the project will be notified to the World Bank within 24 hours of the PCU/FAO becoming aware of them, consistent with the ESCP. Before any distribution or activity starts in the four new counties, the PMU will complete a mapping of GBV service providers (medical, psychosocial, legal and safety/shelter) in Rubkona, Awerial, Twic and Juba and update the referral pathway accordingly. All relevant staff of the PCU, PMU, and contractors will receive training on receiving GBV-SEA complaints and referral systems including World Bank Good Practice Note on 'Addressing Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH) in Investment

The GRM structures have been established in 13 counties and and will be established before any project activity starts in the four new counties (Rubkona, Awerial, Twic and Juba). The committees were trained on their roles and responsibilities at different levels. These committees include Appeal Committees (ACs), Boma Development Committees (BDC), Payam Development Committees (PDC), County Core Teams (CCT), and State Technical Committees (STC) these committees will continue serving under the AF2 and new committees will be selected in the 4 new counties. The GRM in the new counties will include: (i) accessibility for persons with disabilities (accessible venues, assisted or sign-language reporting, large-print materials) and child-friendly channels (through schools and trusted adults); (ii) anonymous channels (suggestion boxes, hotline 515 and, for SEA/SH, hotline 882); (iii) a separate worker grievance channel for direct and contracted workers, community workers, and WFP, warehouse and supplier workers, as described in the Labour Management Procedures; (iv) protection against retaliation for complainants, workers and GRM committee members, with confidential handling of identities; and (v) harmonization of customary dispute-resolution mechanisms with the project GRM, so that customary decisions respect national law and the ESF and complainants may always escalate to the project GRM, the FAO OIG or the World Bank GRS.

7 Appeal committees have been established in Wau, consisting of 35members (26 male and 9 female), Jur River 6 Appeal Committees with 60 members (39 male and 21 female),9 Appeal Committees with 63 members (34 male and 29 female), Aweil East27 Appeal Committees with 189 members (75 male and 114 female), Aweil South 12 Appeal Committees with 84 members (36 male and 48 female), Bor, 5 Appeal Committees with 50 members (25 males and 25 females), Torit 5 Appeal Committees with 40 members (21 male and 19 female), Magwi 19 Appeal Committees with 142 members (78 male and 64 female).

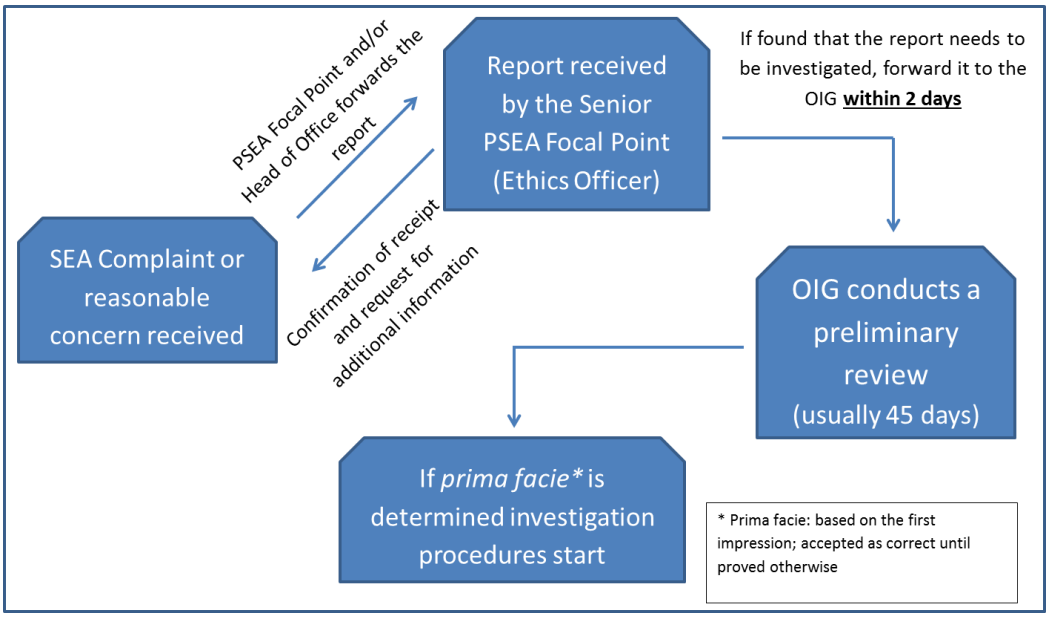
Awareness for beneficiaries about different grievances reporting channels including help desk, suggestion box, and hotline free numbers (515 for non-GBV complaints and 882 for GBV-related grievances). So far 258 grievances have been reported under the parent project and AF1 and, as reported in the Project Paper, all were resolved within 15 days. The 15-day resolution standard continues under AF2, aligned with the ESCP and ESRS. The grievances are related to lack of fruit seedlings, small quantities of seeds, delayed tools and seed distribution, beneficiary targeting, agricultural land dispute, allowance for the Appeal Committees, fences for farms. Requests for solar water pumps, watering cans, and tools such as hoes, malodas, and wheelbarrows. All complaints were addressed by providing the beneficiaries with enough seeds and fruit seedlings, installation of solar water pumps, and awareness creation about the beneficiaries' selection criteria.

The key lessons learnt from the parent project was high turnover of oversight committees due to lack of incentives since they are not beneficiaries of the project. Hence it is necessary to provide them with non-monetary incentives or register their family members as beneficiaries.

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More information on the GBV-SEA GRM is in the main text of the ESMF and GBV/SEA Action Plan..

Figure 3: GBV-SEA Grievance redress mechanism flowchart



At all times, the IP will provide feedback promptly to the aggrieved party, for example through the phone or through the GRM/AAP local focal point. Feedback is also communicated through stakeholder meetings and beneficiary meetings during project activities. For sensitive issues, feedback is given to

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the concerned people bilaterally. Records of all feedback and grievances reported will be established by either IPs and PMU on their own systems and able triangulation. All feedback is documented and categorized for reporting and/ or follow-up if necessary.

PMU technical officer will investigate the claim within 7 working days of acknowledgement, with the overall resolution standard of 15 days from receipt of a complaint (aligned with the ESCP and ESRS) and share findings with relevant stakeholders. Where an incident was reported, RALP AF2 will follow the incident managementprotocol defined in the document. The complaints collected from the FAO complaints and feedbackmechanisms are triangulated with the information from the monitoring reports from IPs.

Where a negotiated grievance solution is required, the IP will invite the aggrieved party (or a representative) to decide on a solution which is acceptable to both parties and allows for the case to be closed, if both parties agree. PMUwill be part of the negotiation to ensure that customary rules, national laws and WB ESF considerations are respected within the agreement, and report to FAO for triangulation.

Assess immediate needs of survivor/complainant and activate the referral pathways for needed services. Inform the FAOR/PSEA Focal Point (if not the one receiving the complaint) about the situation so action can be taken. Ensure that all records of communication regarding the complaint are secured and respecting confidentiality rules. Forward the case to the Ethics Officer as soon as possible. Inform World Bank within 24 hours.

After deciding a case, the IP must give access to an appeals mechanism to the aggrieved party, which is constituted through the FAO (PMU or OIG). This is important in cases in which the aggrieved party is dissatisfied with the solution provided by the IP. In these instances, the PMU will step in and provide the appeals mechanism. The appeals should be sent to the AAP Multiple channel (phone, suggestion boxes, etc.) where they will be reviewed and decided by the PMU jointly. If parties disagree on the solution, staff will inform the complainant on the two others appeal process (OIG excepting for labour consideration, World Bank GRS).

If the case was not filed anonymously, implementing staff will provide first feedback to the aggrieved party within seven working days (acknowledgement), and the grievance will be resolved within 15 days of receipt, through local channel (GRM local focal point, IPs, etc.). Further feedback and action will depend on the nature of the case and whether cases are decided upon within the respective IP. The IP will show to the PMU that action has been taken within a reasonable amount of time.

The GRM will be a distinct mechanism that will allow stakeholders, at the community level, to provide feedback on project impacts and mitigation programs. The PMU, specifically the Risk Manager, will be responsible for monitoring the availability and implementation of the GRM. Monitoring and reporting will be supervised by FAO staff. Members of the community, through theirrepresentatives, will have a role to undertake both compliance monitoring and impact monitoring. The overall RALP AF2 environment and social progress report will have a distinct section on GRM that includes the complaints recorded, resolved and referred to the formal court system.

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The project GRM structures and functions provided platforms to resolve project related grievances in a timely manner. Although the implementing partner continued to use Accountability for Affected Persons (AAP) who also serve other donor projects, grievances within the WB funded projects have been addressed.

Table 11: Synthesis of Actors and responsibilities within the Project GRM

ACTORS	RESPONSIBILITIES WITHIN PROJECT GRM TO RESOLVE GRIEVANCES
GRMFOCAL POINTS	Sensitize communities and beneficiaries prior to any activity's implementation on GRM channel and rights Intake of feedback and complaint through AAP committee (daily) or suggestion boxes (weekly) and report to Help line Operator Respond and contact with the Complainer
TRADITION AL AUTHORITIES	Intake of complaints Report to AAP Committee and AAP Focal point Solution proposal including the Third Legal Party Monitoring and with agreement of RALP/AF Project Manager
IP	Intake of feedback and complaint Report and refer to FAO Helpline Operator and E&S Risk Specialists Corrective measures definition and implementation with prior agreement of PMU
HELPLINE OPERATOR	Record complaints from all channel sources (Inter Agency CBCM), AAP, Hotline, IPs Referring to respective Project Technical Officer, and to committees
TECHNICAL OFFICERS	Assessment Complaint and Corrective measures definition Report to E&S risk Specialists
E&S RISK SPECIALISTS	Monitoring of Complaints and feedback Triangulation of complaints through different channels (IP, IA-CBCM, etc.) Reporting to E&S at Project Coordination Unit and M&E Officers
PCU PROJECT OFFICER	Report quarterly to World Bank Report in 24hr for incident to WorldBank for Decision making Ensures resolution of complaint within 15 days
THIRD- PARTY MONITORING	Assess court functionalities and accessibility Follow Up complaints resolution through courts systems and traditional authorities. Report on E&S Specialists
FAO - OIG	Independent Investigation
WB - GRS	Appeal and parallel Grievance system

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7. MONITORING AND REPORTING

7.1 Participatory Monitoring

Adequate institutional arrangements, systems and resources will be put in place to monitor the application of stakeholder engagement in line with this SEP across the whole project. The goals of monitoring will be to measure the success rate of the activities, determine whether interventions have handled negative impacts, identify ideas for improvement of interventions, and whether further interventions are required, or monitoring is to be extended in some areas. The goal of inspection activities is to ensure that sub-component activities comply with the plans and procedures laid out in the ESMF and ESCP. The ESMF will lay out environmental and social risks mitigation measures, with a dedicated E&S monitoring and reporting plan.

The main monitoring responsibilities will be with the PMU, and overall project-related environmental and social monitoring and main implementer of the SEP. This will be led by the PMU Environmental and Social Risk Management Officers, with the support of the GRM/AAP Officers of the implementing partners in respective counties. The PMU Project Manager will be overall responsible for the implementation of the environmental and social mitigation measures, including the SEP and location-specific or activity- specific SEP, as well as for monitoring and inspections for compliance with the ESF. The PCU safeguards team will provide overall oversight for effective implementation of the SEP and will report to the World Bank as required.

In addition, IPs will have their own dedicated means of monitoring impacts, administering mitigating measures and stakeholder involvement in consultation with FAO to ensure consistency in quality. These will be launched and implemented within the partners' specific sub-component activities. The IPs will share these with the PMU and integrate stakeholder inputs into their regular monitoring and reporting activities. The IPs will report the number - disaggregated with gender, locations and results of their SEP or SEP- related activities to the PMU monthly. The PMU will then consolidate these reports for submission to the PCU quarterly.

A third-party monitor (TPM) will be engaged and maintained by the PCU throughout project implementation on a competitive basis (consistent with the ESCP), with scope extended to the four new counties and voucher distribution, and with independent verification for selected disbursement categories, any retroactive financing and the SGR performance-based conditions, as provided in the Project Paper to provide independent operational review of overall project implementation and project results, including the implementation of the SEP, ESMF and GRM. The PMU will synthesize all reporting by TPMs and IPs, as well as its own findings, and produce an overall environment and social progress report with a distinct section on stakeholder engagement in line with the template in Annex 3 of the ESMF. The project will follow a quarterly reporting cycle to the World Bank for both regular and TPM reporting in line with World Bank requirements for Fragile, Conflict and Violent (FCV) environment projects. These reports will further be shared with all stakeholders, as defined in the SEP.

The GRM Officers will use several Key Performance Indicators to measure engagements proposed in this SEP inclusive of the following parameters per reporting period;(a) consultations held and documented in all four new counties before Appraisal, and at least one consultation per county per quarter thereafter; (b) at least 90% of grievances resolved within 15 days of receipt, and 100% of SEA/SH cases notified to the World Bank within 24 hours; (c) women at least 50% of participants in community consultations and at least 40% of GRM committee members; (d) GRM operating in 100% of the 17 counties (including the four new counties) before activities start; and (e) disaggregated participation (sex, age, disability, displacement status) recorded for 100% of consultations.

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- Number of Consultative Meetings and their frequency: The consultative meetings for RALP/ AF/ AF2 conducted in 13 counties spanning from Oct 2023 to September 2026. Participants included State Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and the Environment (Director General's Office), State Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries (Director General's Office), local government officials from County Agricultural Department, County Department of Livestock and Fisheries,Project committees,and community members from three participating payams in the county. Hence, at each county, about five (5) consultative meetings are conducted, and a total of 85 meetings done for all the selected counties under the parent project/AF/AF2.
- Number of grievances registered and resolved including the time for resolving the grievance: So far approximately 258 non-GBV grievances have been reported from commencement of RALP and resolved within [actual resolution times to be confirmed by the GRM team]; the 15-day standard applies going forward (see Section 6). These complaints were related to Exclusion during registration, Inadequate farm tools and seeds, delayed payment of contractors' workers and general queries.
- The Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) under the RALP Additional Funding has continued to serve as an important channel for capturing community concerns, expectations, and feedback related to project implementation. During the reporting period, feedback received through the GRM reflected both appreciation for ongoing initiatives and emerging needs that communities consider critical for enhancing their livelihoods and resilience.
- One of the dominant themes from the feedback was the strong interest in Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs). Beneficiaries across project areas expressed that VSLAs have proven to be a valuable tool for improving household financial stability, promoting savings culture, and supporting small-scale investments. Communities have requested expansion and strengthening of VSLA activities, including training in financial literacy, governance, and record-keeping, FAO requested the Implementing partner RWD to support this initiative accordingly. In several cases, respondents highlighted that VSLAs could serve as a complementary mechanism to agricultural support interventions, enabling members to mobilize resources for inputs, labor, and small enterprises. This feedback underscores the need for the project to integrate financial inclusion more deliberately into livelihood support components.
- Another recurring issue raised through the GRM concerns requests for agricultural inputs, particularly seeds. Many beneficiaries indicated that access to improved and climate-resilient seed varieties remains limited. The feedback suggests that communities are eager to adopt better farming practices but face constraints due to input shortages. Respondents emphasized the importance of timely seed distribution aligned with planting seasons, as well as the need for guidance on appropriate crop varieties suited to local conditions. This was addressed promptly through the agricultural extension services.
- In addition to input-related concerns, a significant portion of grievances and feedback revolved around the need for reliable weather and climate information. Farmers specifically requested advance advisories on predicted weather patterns ahead of planting seasons. Given the increasing variability of rainfall and the impacts of climate change, communities expressed uncertainty in making planting decisions without accurate forecasts. Beneficiaries recommended that the project facilitate access to localized weather information, potentially through extension officers, community meetings, or digital platforms. This indicates a growing awareness among farmers of climate risks and a willingness to adopt climate-smart agricultural practices if provided with the necessary information.
- Overall, the 258 grievances captured through the GRM points to a strong demand for integrated support that goes beyond infrastructure and production. Communities are seeking a combination of financial inclusion (VSLAs), access to essential inputs (seeds), and climate information services (weather forecasts) to strengthen their resilience and productivity. The concerns raised are not complaints in isolation but rather constructive inputs that can inform adaptive project management.

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- In response, the project is considering scaling up VSLA initiatives, improving coordination for timely distribution of agricultural inputs, and partnering with meteorological services to disseminate actionable climate information. Strengthening communication channels within the GRM will also ensure that communities remain informed about how their feedback is being addressed, thereby enhancing trust and participation.
- In conclusion, the GRM under the RALP Additional Funding has provided valuable insights into community priorities, resolved the issues raised, reflecting a shift toward more holistic livelihood support, emphasizing financial empowerment, agricultural productivity, and climate resilience as key pillars for sustainable development.

Annex 2 of the SEP provides a summary of the consultation process, issues raisedfor consideration in RALP/AF., and annex 3 provides summary of stakeholders needs, concerns and recommendations based on the consultation in July 2026.

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7.2 Reporting back to stakeholder groups

Results of stakeholder engagements will be reported back to the affected communities, as well as the relevant local authorities and other stakeholders through quarterly project reports. It will be the responsibility of the PMU and PCU to ensure that all relevant reporting is shared throughthe above defined public means. At a sub-component and activity level, IPs will be responsible for disclosing their stakeholder engagement results and relevant reporting on a quarterly basis. The report will include feedback on how stakeholders' concerns are being addressed, and they will be reminded of the availability of the GRM in case of any issues arising from the reporting.

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ANNEXES

Annex 1: Key considerations for stakeholder engagement and ESMF provisions

ESS 10: Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure				
Is there a risk that the activity fails to incorporate measures to allow meaningful, effective and informed consultation of stakeholders, such as community engagement activities?				Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP
Is there a historical exclusion of disabled persons in the area?				Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)
Is there a lack of social baseline data?				ESMF
Are women likely to participate in decision-making processes in regard to the activity?				Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)
Is there a risk that exclusion of beneficiaries leads to grievances?				Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) Grievance Redress Mechanisms (GRM) – see ESMF
Is there a risk that the activity will have poor access to beneficiaries?				Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) Grievance Redress Mechanisms (GRM) – see ESMF
Will insecurity, flooding or displacement hamper proper stakeholder engagement?				WB and FGS guidance, security management plan and Insecurity and flooding

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ANNEX 2: Sample Field Report for First Additional Financing (AF) Consultation in 9 of 13 Counties January 2024

1.0 Background

Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS) has received a proposal for Additional Financing (AF) for the current parent project (RALP/AF) to support good agricultural practices, agroforestry, and good natural resource management skills for farmers and herders to improve food production and livelihoods for food insecure households. It is a government and donor requirement that stakeholder consultations must be conducted to inform reviews on the key project environmental and social framework documents. These include the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and its associated annexes such as the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), Social Assessment (SA), Security Management Plan (SMP), Labor Management Procedures (LMP), Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM), etc. This assessment targeted actors in agricultural livelihoods, fisheries, and livestock post-harvest activities including meat sellers, milk collectors, fish sellers, youths, women groups, and issues relating to sanitation, occupational health, and safety on sales of meat and fish, disposal of carcasses of dead animals, access to markets, processing, handling and preservation equipment, and Personal Protective Equipment

Purpose of the Field Visits

This report was produced after stakeholder engagement in 9 counties under the RALP/AF project. The stakeholder engagement plan was meant to consult beneficiaries on additional financing information on new activities added to the RALP/AF project post-harvest needs in livestock, fisheries and agroforestry and natural resource management. The focus was to assess the needs of the processing of meats and fish, disposal of carcasses, waste management at the landing sites and slaughter slabs, storage facilities, etc.

Objectives of the Consultations

- To consult stakeholders on new activities for the project Additional Financing (AF)
- To update the ESF documents (ESMF, SEP, GRM, SMP, SA)

2.1 Nine (9) of the 13 counties of the RALP/AF Project Implementation Sampled for the Consultations

2.2 Methodologies

- Semi-structured interviews with officials of State Ministries of Livestock and Fisheries, County Department of Livestock and Fisheries, market vendors, meat buyers and sellers.
- Site visit to assess post-harvest handling technologies for fisheries and livestock products.
- Photographs on landing sites, markets, livestock butcheries/abattoir/slaughterhouses, occupational and community health and safety issues.

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2.3 Responsibility

Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS), Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries (MLF) and IP/ FAOSS Field Office.

3. Findings

During the interviews and site observations, the teams recorded important needs pertaining to transportation, marketing, quality control and nutritional values, extension information and communication, administration and management of individuals in the post-harvest handling activities. It should be noted that there was no processing equipment for either fish, meat or crops in all the counties. All the post-harvest products were sold in the local markets and exported out in crude forms.

The table below provides the main activities and corresponding needs for post-harvest activities:

	Sector Activities	**Needs**
Livestock post-harvest handling activities		
1.	Administer veterinary services for livestock	a. Livestock vaccination kits for each county b. Support the private sector
2.	Training of Community Animal Health Workers	Training manuals and refresher training course for Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs), Animal Health Auxiliary and field veterinarians for effective veterinary services a. Fodder production and processing b. Community dialogue c. Peace building d. Environmental protection e. Anti-mortem examination and meat inspection, carcasses disposal
3.	Supply milk locally	a. Milk pasteurization, storage and transportation facilities b. Establish milk chilling centers c. Provide milk fridges and containers d. One week training in milk processing, storage, transportation and marketing
4.	Clean slaughter slabs to maintain hygiene, keep off flies	a. Provide waste bins for slaughterhouses b. construct septic tanks, washrooms (bathrooms and toilets) for each slaughter slab staff and Anti Mortemfacility and water system

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	Sector Activities	Needs
		c. Provide water harvest tanks for each slaughter slab d. Environmental Health certificates for each butcher e. Provide disinfectants f. Provide sterilization equipment to boil water for cleaning slabs and disinfecting slaughter tools g. Provide personal protective equipment for butchers such as protective aprons such as chainmail and aluminum aprons, chain-mail gloves, and cut-resistant gloves h. Provide storage facilities for meats, hides and skins and tanneries processing equipment
5.	Clean butcheries regularly to maintain hygiene	a. Provide waste bins inside and outside meat markets b. Construct septic tanks, washrooms (bathrooms and toilets) for each meat market staff c. Environmental Health certificates for each butcher d. Provide water harvest tanks for each slaughter slab e. Provide disinfectants, PPEs (chainmail aprons, chainmail gloves, cut-resistant hand gloves, gumboots) f. Provide sterilization equipment to boil water for cleaning butcheries and disinfecting butchers' tools g. Installation of power and running water in the current slaughter facility h. Training of public health personnel on meat hygiene and sanitary measures i. Construction of an incinerator for safe disposal of condemned carcasses. j. Provide equipment for butchers such as i. Band saw/Bone saw. ii. Biltong slicers. iii. Meat mincers. iv. Meat mixers. v. Meat slicers. vi. Sausage fillers. vii. Hamburger press. viii. Vacuum machines.
6.	Livestock post-harvest handling and marketing	a. Construct/rehabilitate meat markets b. Management of meat markets c. Transportation means for meats from slaughter slabs to meat market

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	Sector Activities	Needs
		d. Storage facilities for meats e.g. refrigeration pre-cooling, cleaning and disinfecting, sorting and grading, packaging, storing, and transportation e. Improvement of the local breed through artificial insemination techniques and crossbreeding. f. Training in livestock products handling and processing. g. Provision of processing equipment for safe handling and processing of livestock products h. Improvement of animal feeds through the introduction of fodder cultivation i. Provision of fodder seeds and training of pastoralists on cultivation skills through the establishment of demonstration plots. j. Training on fodder preservation skills such as making hay and silage to improve animal weight and milk production during the dry season. k. Support the formation of pastoralist union and Butchers' association to promote and regulate trade in livestock and livestock products such as milk, meat, hides & skin, etc. l. Encourage the formation of cooperatives for livestock products. m. Enforcement of the rule of law and resolution of communal conflicts n. Establishment of meat market o. Provision of cold chain storage and appropriate transportation equipment.
7	Challenges facing the livestock sector	a. The Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries (MLF) should expedite the development of relevant policies to regulate the livestock sector. b. Provision of sufficient veterinary drugs and vaccines by the government and the development partners c. Provision of subsidized veterinary drugs d. Awareness creation and training on the proper use of veterinary drugs e. Awareness campaigns on the importance of animal vaccines in disease prevention and control f. Establishment of landfill for proper waste management g. Construction of incinerator for safe disposal of condemned carcasses

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	Sector Activities	Needs
		h. Rehabilitation of the existing Wau veterinary laboratory i. Provision of laboratory equipment and reagent j. Training in laboratory personnel k. Provision of cold chain for the storage of meat l. Awareness creation to law enforcement authorities on the importance of following the guidelines, especially on animal movement.
Fisheries Sector Post Harvest-Handling Activities and Needs		
1.	Type of fish catch and fishing gears	a. Common species of fish in the area for market are Nile perch, Lates Nilotic us, tilapias. b. Train beneficiaries on making nets and ropes for fishing; fishing technologies.
2.	Fisheries actors at the landing sites, markets and transportation	Fisher mongers, traders' association, traders, transporters, county and state inspectors, Local inhabitants, Ugandans,
3.	Methods used to process and preserve the fish	Salting, sun drying and smoking
4.	Fisheries infrastructures and services are required toimprove the quality andsafety of fish.	a. Construction of the landing sites b. Cold storage c. Smoking kiln/oven d. Transportation means. Provision of refrigerated motorboats, fiberglass (Engine Boat), motorbikes and mobile deep freezer e. Construction of fish market f. Construction of storage facilities with cold chain g. Construction of smoking kiln/oven
5.	Fish market linkages and fisheries products	a. Fish is locally sold in the nearest markets, Juba and tothe neighboring countries like Uganda, Kenya and D.R. Congo b.
6.	Fish processing, handling, preservation and marketing	a. Fish processing equipment b. Fish preservation equipment c. Provide waste bins inside d. Construct septic tanks, washrooms (bathrooms and toilets) for fisheries market e. Provide water harvest tanks for each fisheries market

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	Sector Activities	Needs
		f. Environmental Health certificates for each butcher g. Provide disinfectants h. Provide sterilization equipment to boil water for cleaning slabs and disinfecting slaughter tools i. Provide personal protective equipment for butchers such as protective aprons such as chainmail and aluminum aprons, chain-mail gloves, and cut-resistant gloves j. Provide cold chains for fish preservation k. Provide solar power
7.	Capacity building on good fish handling and hygiene practices and fish processing	a. Training manuals on fish processing, preservation, packaging, transportation b. Training in fish handling, processing, preservation and packaging
Agroforestry and Natural Resources Management		
1.	Rice production in the flooded areas	a. Training in rice production. Establishment of demonstration farms to train farmers on rice production. b. Training in small-scale irrigation for rice production c. Agroecological assessment for suitability of rice spp d. Construction of shelter belts for prevention of floods, windbreaks and increased soil fertility. e. Construction of dikes to control water flow f. Planting fast maturing crops and flood/drought resistant crops e.g. sorghum varieties such as wad Hamad, sisal 3, etc.
2.	Fruit trees and crops preferred under the additional financing	a. Scale up seedlings' nurseries for mangoes, lemons, oranges, guavas. Distribute fruit tree seeds and seedlings for free. b. Provision of greenhouse. c. Provision of tools and PPE
3.	Small-scale irrigation	a. Support on access to small-scale irrigation equipment b. Provision of solar pump/genset pump for small-scale irrigation c. Provision of drip irrigation equipment d. Training in the use of small-scale irrigation equipment

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	Sector Activities	Needs
4.	Capacity building	a. Training in crop processing, storage and marketing b. Provision of equipment crop (rice) processing, storage, c. Training in integrated farming systems (mixed cropping, fish farming, fodder production for livestock nutrition) d. Training on land tenure security for farming to achieve food security e. Training in pests and disease control measures: Traditional methods; Mechanical methods; Biological methods; Chemical methods. f. Access for seeds and preservation of seeds e.g. traditional landraces (OPVs), improved seeds g. Training in good agronomic practices such as grafting and budding, h. Training in agroforestry practices i. Training in vegetable production and management j. Training in orchard establishment and management k. Training in pests and disease prevention and controls l. Provision of ox-plough, oxen/ donkeys m. Provision of mechanized plows such as power tillers n. Provision of farming tools such as hoes, wheelbarrows, axes, slashers, watering cans, etc. o. Provision of transportation means (tricycles, motorbikes, etc.) p. Provision of PPEs and first aid kits q. Exposure tour to well-established farms r. Encourage large-scale seeds, crops, and vegetable production for market
5	Access to seeds both Use traditional landrace seeds and improved seeds supplied	a. Provision of improved quality seeds b. Promotion of seed production by local farmers c. Encourage seed fares for locally produced seeds. d. Training of local farmers on seed production and preservation e. Construction of seed/grain stores for proper seed storage.
6	Control techniques against post-harvest pests and diseases	a. Training of farmers on the use of local herbs such as neem trees, mahogany bark, tobacco, pili-pili, etc., b. Training farmers on crop preservation, post-

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	Sector Activities	Needs
		harvesting handling and management c. Provision of sprayers such as motorized and backpack sprayers d. Training in the proper use of chemical pesticides where necessary.
7	Age/ social groups involved in farming a. Women b. Youths c. Men d. People Living with Disability etc.	Most on-farm work is undertaken by women. Hence to ensure inclusivity, women, youths and people living with disability should be targeted separately.
8	Local environmental protection knowledge and alternative environmentally friendly cooking methods	a. Training in making energy saving stoves b. Provide free tree seedlings c. Dyke rehabilitation

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ANNEX 3: Consultations in 13 of 17 Counties.

1.0 Introduction

The world Bank secured some funding for second Additional financing of South Sudan Resilient Agricultural Livelihoods Project (RALP). It is a government and donor requirement that stakeholders' consultation, and food production cost assessment should be conducted in thirteen (13) of 17 proposed counties to gather stakeholders' insight or needs, inform further design of the AF2 and to inform reviews on the key project environmental and social framework documents. Key instruments include the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)and its associated annexes such as the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), Social Assessment (SA), Security Management Plan (SMP), Labor Management Procedures (LMP), Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM).

The proposed AF2 will strengthen the country's capacity to enhance its food security through increased food production and managing future food security crises. The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to strengthen the capacity of farmers and their organizations and improve agricultural production.

South Sudan Recently received influx of refugees and returnees to the project areas[1] that has put more strain on limited resources to achieve the PDO. In addition, the country for the last four years suffered from climate change shocks with excessive flooding for four consecutive years that destroyed livelihoods and increased food insecurity. Therefore, the proposed interventions of the AF2 will scale up the existing activities of the parent project to increase food production and add new activities to address food insecurity due to flooding and the influx of the returnees and refugees that settle in the project geographical areas.

The project has four components: Component 1 (Capacity-building in Good Agricultural Practices) for selected households focusing on environmentally friendly approaches to livelihoods development and ensures the protection and preservation of natural resources and the environment; Component 2 (Investment Support for Improved Agricultural Production) to improve climate-smart agricultural value chains through agricultural inputs and appropriate climate-smart technology and tools to enhance agricultural production, value addition, and resilience; Component 3 (Project Management and Technical Assistance) aims to provide capacity strengthening and technical support to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS) to enhance its planning, coordination, managerial and technical role and functions; and Component 4 (Contingent Emergency Response) to respond to emergency crises using uncommitted funds.

1.1 Purpose of the field visit

The purpose of this field mission is to engage stakeholders and farmer households and groups to obtain stakeholders' priority needs, assessment of food production costs, and to discuss new proposed activities to be added to the RALP AF2. The activities are livestock, fisheries and other farming inputs that improve good agricultural practice and production, institutional capacity building, processing of meat and fish, Soil health management, disposal of carcasses, waste management at the landing sites and slaughter slabs, storage facilities, etc.

[1] Twic East, Akobo and Bor in Jonglei State, Renk and Melut in Upper Nile State, Aweil East and Aweil South in Northern Bahr el Ghazal State, Wau and Jur River in Western Bahr el Ghazal State, Torit and Magwi in Eastern Equatoria State, Yei in Central Equatoria State, Maridi in Western Equatoria

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1.2 Objectives of the Mission

- To consult stakeholders on new activities for the second Additional Financing (AF)
- Assess crop production costs in the targeted counties
- To update the ESF institution (ESMF, SEP, GRM, SMP, SA)

1.3 Methodology

- Key informant interviews (KII) were conducted with the Local authorities such CAD, commissioners, Payam Directors, PDC, BDC, NGO representatives as well as farmer groups, and administered the food production costing questionnaires.
- The team visited the infrastructure Sites (MFC and Fish shades, beneficiary farms, vegetable gardens,
- Photography: photos taken to evidence the actions or activities implemented by the project

2. Summary of Community needs

	Sector Activities	Stakeholders Needs
Food production		
	crops production to improve livelihoods	• Strengthen demonstration farms and make them functional to train more farmers. • Continue supporting farmer organization through extension services and training on good agricultural practices; • Provide fast maturing crops and flood/drought resistant crops e.g. maize, sorghum varieties, supply of farm tools. These are the main crops being produced based on assessment • Provision of ox-plough tractors • Provision of mechanized plows such as power tillers • Provision of farming tools such as hoes, wheelbarrows, axes, slashers, watering cans, etc. • Access to market • Access to seeds and preservation of seeds • Strengthening governance capacity of farmer organizations, cooperatives, producer groups • Training in nutrition-sensitive practices: nutrition-dense crops, mixed cropping, vegetable farming, kitchen gardening, small livestock/poultry, fruit trees, food preservation • Provision of crops processing machines • Registration of farmer groups as cooperatives • Provide Field-level pest surveillance and early warning and support in pest control

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	Small-scale irrigation for rice and vegetables	• Continuing Support to access small-scale irrigation equipment • Training in small-scale irrigation for vegetable production • Installation of drip irrigation equipment in various demo plots • Refresher Training on the use of small-scale irrigation equipment • Need to expand demo plots as number of farmers increase • Acquisition of more land for vegetable production
	Capacity building	• Train farmers and production groups in integrated soil fertility management, and improved soil health • Training on land tenure security for farming to achieve food security • Train government personnel, extension workers, community surveillance teams and trainers in pest surveillance and monitoring, • Training in crop processing, storage and marketing • Provision of equipment crop (rice) processing, storage, • Training in integrated farming systems (mixed cropping, fish farming, fodder production for livestock nutrition) • Training in good agronomic practices and on agroforestry practices • Training in pests and disease prevention and controls • Training soil technicians in the soil laboratory-Wau
FISHERIES		
	Fisheries services to improve the quantity, quality and safety of fish	• Training of more fisheries extension personnel and fishing communities in fish handling, processing, preservation Provision of fishing gears as those distributed earlier are spoiled. • Need fisheries production kits. • Construction of the landing sites through support of local authorities for fish waste • Provision of fish Cold storage or freezes, and ice production machines for effective preservations efforts • Construction of smoking kiln/ovens. • Provision of hygiene equipment for fishing groups at fish markets
LIVESTOCK		
	Livestock health	• Encourage livestock fairs to ensure inclusivity in livestock production and their products. • Training of community animal health workers on basic animal husbandry and animal health • Vaccination of livestock and treatment to support animal health services. • Strengthen Fodder production groups by providing fodder seeds, training groups

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3. Stakeholders' concerns raised during the visits

Director of Soil Health at SMAFE urged the project to train additional soil technicians to supplement the current staff who are inadequate to manage the soil laboratory. WAU CAD urged for routine provision of extension services through hands-on support to farmers on CSA,

Stakeholders highlighted insecurity, floods and drought as major challenges, but they will support the project in its implementation.

Continue supporting farmer organization through extension services and training on good agricultural practices.

Agriculture Director at western Equatoria SMAFE expressed the need for expansion of RALP to other counties beyond Maridi. But it was clarified that no new location will be selected as the project is scaling up only activities under the first AF.

Unreliable rainfall patterns, pests and wild animals are the major threats affecting crop production,

Torit and Magwi farmers demand RALP/AF2 to Provide tractors or its ploughing cost to improve expedite land preparation and reduce labor costs.

3.1 Further recommendation from various stakeholders

S/No	Recommendation/Action Point	Timeline	Responsible
1	Provide tractors and other agricultural machinery to improve land preparation and reduce labor costs in Aweil South and Aweil East Counties.	Within 3 months	FAO & MAFS
2	Improve and rehabilitate feeder roads to facilitate farmers' access to production areas and markets.	Within 6 months	MAFS, Donors & FAO
3	Construct community storage facilities to reduce post-harvest losses and improve household food security.	Within 6 months	FAO & MAFS
4	Strengthen market linkages for RALP-supported farmer groups by improving access to buyers and market information.	Within 3 months	FAO, MAFS & CADs
5	Provide marketing and promotional materials,	Within 3 months	FAO

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	including megaphones and banners, to strengthen collective marketing by farmer organizations in Aweil East County.		
6	Invest in irrigation infrastructure and technologies to reduce the impact of erratic rainfall and support year-round crop production.	Within 12 months	FAO & Development Partners
7	Supply post-harvest processing equipment, particularly sorghum threshers and other appropriate technologies, to reduce labor requirements and improve processing efficiency.	Within 6 months	FAO
8	Promote Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and strengthen surveillance and control of crop pests and diseases.	Continuous	FAO, MAFS & CADs
9	Conduct regular capacity-building of farmers on improved agronomic practices, farm business management, post-harvest handling, and climate-smart agriculture.	Continuous	FAO, MAFS & CADs
10	Continue supporting mechanized land preparation services and promoting appropriate farm mechanization to increase productivity and reduce production costs.	Continuous	FAO & MAFS
11	Strengthen extension service delivery and technical backstopping to farmer organizations throughout the production cycle.	Continuous	County Agriculture Departments (CADs) & FAO

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12	Enhance access to quality agricultural inputs, including certified seeds and crop protection products, to improve productivity and profitability.	Before each planting season	FAO & MAFS

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