About CRS-O

1. CRS-O begun as a voluntary entity in June, 2019 advocating for women’s rights to access to nutritious foods through kitchen gardens establishment at HH level.


3. **Address:**
   - Our head offices are in the formers SNV compound next to Riverside hotel, Nalingaro in Kapoeta Town Payam, Kapoeta South County.
   - In Juba, our coordination office is in Melekia near Eden Bank, in CES
   - In WES, our field office is based in Kuze residential area, Yambio county, WES;
   - In NBEG, Our field office is in Naivasha, Aweil town.

CRS-O Pilot Project- SHAAIN Resilience Project

**Project Location and duration:** 12 months in Kapoeta South County

**Context:** KSC is one of the three counties that make up the greater Kapoeta in EES. The County lies in the eastern semi-arid livelihood zone and is predominantly inhabited by the Toposa tribe who practice pure pastoralism as their livelihood activity with some subsistence farming especially growing of cereal crops such as sorghum but only on small scale.

**Food & Nutrition Situation:** According to the SS IPC, Feb 2020, KS was classified as IPC phase 4 between Feb and April and projected to be in IPC phase 3 between May and July 2020. Previous classifications categorized KS as IPC phase 3. While the nutrition situation remains serious between 10 – 14.9 GAM rate. (precisely 12.2).

**Food and Nutrition security Interventions:** GFD, FFA and FFE; treatment of MAM and SAM on going by partners.

**CRS-O’s SHAAIN Resilience Project:** Planned to build local capacity initiatives targeting vulnerable women and young women in the pastoral setup on production of vegetables for food and income in line with SDG 2 to end hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.

**Project Objective:** Establish women’s central role in sustainable agriculture to improve their food and nutrition security as their right.
Project Indicators and Activities

**Indicators:** The project was planned for 150HH to reach 900 Women (450 in Kapoeta Town payam and 450 in Longeleya Payam) trained on vegetable production and VSLA.

**Activities:**
- Established 6 large demo plots (4 at Kapoeta State Hospital and 2 at Kapoeta Mission Hospital)
- Trained 7 farmers extension workers on Vegetable production.
- Established and trained 3 VSLA groups of women and young women (married adolescents)
- Established and trained 3 support groups of women specifically for behavior change communication on good nutrition practices for pregnant and lactating mothers (MIYCN).

Note: Each group comprise of 10 members and are involved in cascading formation of kitchen gardens to other households.

**Achievements**
- 6 Demo Plots were established
- 6 Farmer extension workers were trained
- 75HH (468 women successfully established their kitchen gardens)
- 3 VSLA were formed and trained on income generation and savings
- 3 Support groups were formed and could meet one in a week before COVID-19 in SS. However, meetings are temporarily halted due to COVID-19 pandemic.
- Integrating COVID-19 Prevention measures in all our activities
Challenges and Lessons Learnt

Challenges

• CRS-O does not have any funding, pilot project is voluntarily financed by Board and management.

• Cultural barriers and perceptions

Lessons Learnt

• With COVID-19 pandemic, agricultural activities related to vegetable production can go on if mothers are informed and able to observe the vital COVID19 prevention strategies like wearing of face masks, standing 2 meter distance from one another and washing hands regularly.

• To facilitate change, there is need to understand the baseline knowledge of farmers about agricultural practices by conducting a KAP of the farmers. CRS-O is planning a farmers KAP in Machi 1 and Machi 2 Payams where the project is likely to be scaled up.
Members of Women Support Groups opening up land for vegetable planting

Members of Women Support Groups weeding one of the kitchen gardens
Members of Women Support Groups Harvesting Vegetables
Members of Women Support Groups monitoring crop performance.

Training Agriculture extension workers
A photo of a well established Sukuma Wiki Demo plot/Kitchen Garden at Kapoeta State Hospital.
CRSO’s extension worker supporting a community members to establish kitchen/sac gardens
A mother harvesting vegetables from her well-established kitchen garden in Hai Tarawa, Kapoeta Town Payam
Cooks harvesting and carrying vegetables from CRSO’s Demo plots at Kapoeta State Hospital
A Cooks preparing the harvested vegetables from CRSO’s Demo plots for inpatients at Kapoeta State Hospital
Individual MIYCN counselling session at Rei B, Kapoeta South County
COMPONENTS OF CRS-O SHHAAIN PROJECT

1) Agriculture -
   ⇒ Kitchen Gardens,
   ⇒ Demo plots
2) Nutrition & Health - Behavior Change Communication
3) Gender - Empowerment
End

Thank you for your time!